NG LIFE™

TOKYOPOP

NG LIFE™

Should their past lives determine what happens in the present? Keidai and Mii were best buds in Pompeii, but all that's changed now that Mii's a girl! After Mii confesses her feelings for him at the amusement center, Keidai rethinks their complicated relationship. But when a childhood friend of Mii's transfers back to their high school, Keidai needs to come to terms with his feelings before he loses her forever!

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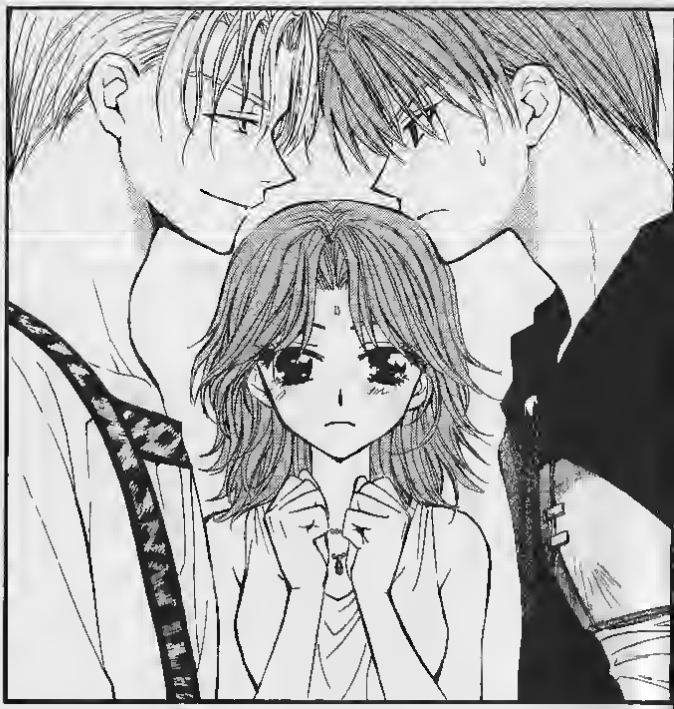
NG LIFE

Volume 7
Mizuho Kusanagi



Vol. 7

By Mizuho Kusanagi

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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NG

CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

佑城裕真 YUUMA UJOH

A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT WHO MOVES IN NEXT DOOR TO KEIDAI'S HOUSE. IN THE PAST HE WAS SIRIX'S WIFE, SERENA. THOUGH HE WAS BORN A BOY IN THE PRESENT, SERENA'S FACE REMAINS LIKES SERIZAWA

冴木敬大 KEIDAI SAEKI

THE MAIN CHARACTER OF THE STORY. IN HIS PAST LIFE, HE WAS A GLADIATOR NAMED SIRIX. HE IS ABLE TO REMEMBER HIS PAST LIFE, AND EVEN IN THE PRESENT, HE SPENDS HIS DAILY LIFE IN AGONY DUE TO HIS UNDYING LOVE FOR HIS PAST WIFE, SERENA ...

芹沢美依 MII SERIZAWA

KEIDAI'S BEST FRIEND WHO KNOWS ALL ABOUT KEIDAI'S MEMORIES OF HIS PAST LIFE. IN THE PAST SHE WAS LOLEUS, SIRIX'S BEST FRIEND. SHE LIKES KEIDAI BUT CAN'T BRING HERSELF TO TELL HIM...?

STORY

► KEIDAI SAEKI CAN REMEMBER HIS PAST LIFE MANY YEARS AGO, HE WAS A YOUNG MAN NAMED SIRIX WHO LIVED IN A CITY NAMED POMPEII WITH A WIFE NAMED SERENA AND A BEST FRIEND NAMED LOLEUS. THEY LIVED IN PEACE AND HAPPINESS BUT ULTIMATELY PERISHED WHEN THEIR CITY WAS DESTROYED IN A VOLCANIC ERUPTION. AND NOW, IN THE PRESENT... HIS WIFE HAS BEEN REBORN AS A BOY AND HIS BEST FRIEND AS A GIRL!

► UNFETTERED BY THEIR PAST LIVES, MIKAGE AND SHIINA HAVE FINALLY COME TOGETHER. ON THE OTHER HAND, EVEN WHILE UNDER THE SPELL OF HIS PAST LIFE, KEIDAI HAS SERIZAWA ON THE BRAIN, BUT...?!

A GIRL WHO LOOKS JUST LIKE SERENA HAS NO RELATION TO THE PAST LIFE ...?

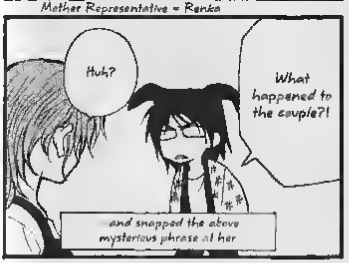
YUUMA'S COUSIN IN THE PAST, HE WAS SERENA'S OLDER SISTER SMYRNA

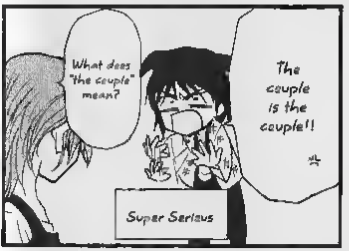
THE SAKAKIBARA SISTERS' CHILDHOOD FRIEND. IN THE PAST, HE WAS AGLAIA'S MERCENARY, CELOS

REINA'S OLDER SISTER. IN THE PAST, SHE WAS SIRIX'S EMPLOYER, AGLAIA

NG LIFE
scene36

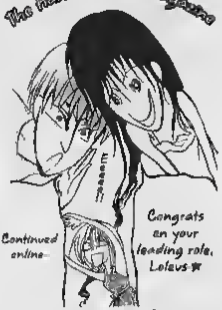
Mother Representative = Renka





Second's later. I returned to my senses and went back to my room as if it were nothing

An NG Life-Like Account



A little joke drawing one of my assistants did during work. The story starring Loleus starts on page 159 ☆ My assistants really like to mess around with the captioning in copies of my work

THAT DAY, MIKAGE AND SHINA SAN RETURNED TOGETHER.

SHINA SAN WITHOUT HER MEMORIES,
AND MIKAGE STILL HOLDING ME.

ALTHOUGH I CAN'T KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THEM...

...THEY WILL PROBABLY...

...BE ABLE TO...LIVE LIFE TOGETHER, FROM HERE ON OUT.

AND AS FOR ME,
WELL, I'M...

Hello everyone. It's me, Kusanagi. I'm cheerfully drawing my tester tottering manga every day! Please flip through it while lazing about. And if you happen to enjoy it that would make me so happy. Hee hee hee

Even Daddy will show up this time

...GETTING DIZZY.
THE ULTIMATE CHOICE.
WHICH OF THEM WILL YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH?
HUH?
OF THOSE TWO.

HACK
Cough hack cough hack
HEY, WHICH ONE?
WE'RE AT ROUND 10.
IT'S AN ENTER-TAINMENT COMPLEX THAT HAS FUN STUFF LIKE SPORTS, KARAOKE, AN ARCADE, AND SO ON.
YOU INVITED US HERE, DIDN'T YOU?
TO A PLACE THAT SCREAMS GROUP DATE.
ROUND 10
THAT'S NOT WHY I INVITED EVERYONE, SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A GUY.
OHHHH?
THEN WHAT ABOUT ME?
COME ON! DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S THE FURTHEST THING FROM YOUR MIND.
Ugh
LOOK WHO'S TALKING.
DON'T YOU JUST HAVE TO FIND NEW LOVE?
ROUND 10
Thud
ROUND 10
AAH!!

YUUMA.
I'LL TEACH YOU HOW.
DAMMIT! THIS IS SO UNCOOL.
YOU SUCK...!
...OWW...
ROUND10
Give me your hand miss♥
↑
Is how it appears
POUT
SAYS THE GIRL WHO'S JUST STANDING AROUND 'CAUSE SHE CAN'T SKATE EITHER!
WHAT?!
WHY DON'T YOU LET HIM TEACH YOU? YOU'RE KINDA BAD AT IT.
IT'S ON!
HOW DARE YOU!
SKREE!
I'M GOOD! AND DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A GIRL!

ROUND10
WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
ずぐっ
YOU AND REINA-CHAN?
OH, NOTHING.
WHICH OF THEM WILL YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH?
IT WOULDN'T BE EITHER OF THEM.
KEI-CHAN.
AHH.
I'M SO DIZZY.

GAH!
AH!
AH!
AH!
YES?
Never a dull moment
BUT YOU HAVE A FEVER AND YOUR EYES ARE WATERY.
NOTHING LIKE THAT
Calm down, Mommy.
THIS IS ALL 'CAUSE REINA HAS SAYING WEIRD STUFF!
KEI-CHAN.
DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
I'M FINE.
SO DON'T TELL THE OTHERS, OKAY?
BUT...
OH, IT MUST BE FROM THE OTHER DAY WHEN YOU WENT INTO THE RIVER LOOKING FOR SHUHA-CHAN.
SHE'S SHAKY.

TODAY I THOUGHT WE COULD...
...FORGET ALL OUR CARES AND HAVE A BLAST.
...FOR REINA-CHAN'S SAKE?
ALL RIGHT, I'LL FOLLOW YOUR LEAD.
BECAUSE REINA-CHAN LIKED MIKAGE-SAN...
...SHE LOST HER SPARK AFTER THAT, HUH?
SOOOOO SHAME...
Don't let go!
Whoa, whoa!
Even though she acted normal
SO DON'T PUSH YOURSELF EITHER, KEI-CHAN.

Hello everyone
It's me, Kusanagi
Thank you so much for picking up NG Life Volume 7!
All the episodes in this volume are standalones (each scene is a complete story), so please stick around to the very end

In order to draw scene 36, I actually went to Round 1 myself. I don't usually go to places like this, but – They had roller skating, batting cages, tennis courts, ping pong, archery, 3-on-3 basketball etc. **And I was bad at everything.** I'm not a physical-activity person. I'm really bad. I'm not even very good at bowling either. On an unrelated note, I'm not very good at games either. Still, I had a lot of fun at Round 1 itself ♥

You've got to move your body every so often, after all. Because my legs seriously give out when I climb stairs

OKAY.
We're moving on to the next one!
Kaidan Miri
BASKETBALL SHOWDOWN.
ぽすっ
PING PONG SHOWDOWN.
ぱしっ
This jerk. Even though he's a big dork, he doesn't miss a beat when it comes to sports...
Planned to go easy on her
I'm a little tired
ぱしっ
CRAP. I MEANT TO GET HER TO HAVE FUN, BUT...
HEY. YOU GUYS...

MIKAGE!
YOU'RE ...
WORKING PART-TIME.
Again?
YOU JUST POP UP EVERY-WHERE, DON'T YOU?
I'M GOOD.
I MEAN, I'VE GOT LOTS OF OTHER BOYS WHO'LL TREAT ME TO SOME-THING.
YOU TOO, REINA.
I'M AT THE FOOD COURT
SO IF YOU COME BY, I GUESS I CAN TREAT Y'ALL TO AT LEAST ONE CUP OF TEA
HE REALLY HAS SOFT-ENED UP.
Compared to his past life self

WELL, HAVE FUN THEN.
THEY'VE GOT BATTING CAGES, AND THOSE'RE YOUR FAVORITES, RIGHT?
...SHE'S FIGHTING NER FAIN ALL ALONE.
...IN ORDER NOT TO LOSE THEM...
WITH BOTH MIKAGE AND SHIINA-SAN SO IMPORTANT TO REINA...
SO I'LL...
SO YOU LIKE THE BATTING CAGES. WANNA GO?
...I'M NOT GOING TO THE STUPID BATTING CAGES.
INSTEAD
...LET'S GO TO THE TAKE DOWN KEIDAI CORNER!
YEAH! REVENGE TIME!
THE TAKE DOWN KEIDAI CORNER? NO FAIR!

IT MAKES ME MAD, SOOO MAD, BUT...
(When he's such a dork
KEI-CHAN'S SO COOL.
WE'RE THE ONES GETTING TAKEN DOWN.
AND WITH A BULLSEYE, EVEN!
UGH...
MY VISION'S ABOUT TO...

UGH... THIS IS KIND OF A DISGRACE.
GREAT JOY.
YAAAY! ♡
OHH!
OH!
OHHH!!
...HM
AND WITH THAT...
HEH HEH HEH.
...THE GREAT VICTORY IN ARCHERY GOES TO REINA-SAMA. ♡
IT'S NOT "GREAT"! YOU ONLY GOT ONE POINT HIGHER THAN SERIZAWA-SAN!
キラリン
NOW THEN! THOSE WHO LOST GET A PENALTY!
HEYYY! DON'T SUDDENLY ADD ON OPTIONS BECAUSE YOU WON!!
MI! SAID SHE HAD SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF SO SHE WAS RUNNING OFF FOR A BIT.
SERIZAWA ...
Ran away?

Princess?
YE... YEAH. THEN...
...PRIN-CESS.
I SHALL ACCEPT YOUR PEHALTY...
NOTHING
WHAT IS IT?
You're all smirky
Hmm what should I go with?
...A CUTE GIRL.
GO PICK UP...
UM. HELLO
LISTEN TO ME
WHAAA?!
YUUMA, YOUR PENALTY IS TO SWITCH CLOTHES WITH ME!
Ignore!
UH... UM, THAT'S A LITTLE. . CAN I HAVE ANOTHER--
IF YOU'RE A MAN, GET OUT THERE AND DO IT!
I GAVE YOU A CHANCE FOR A NEW LOVE!
HUH?!

NOOOOOOO-OOOOOOO!!
HOW... HOW DO YOU PICK UP SOMEONE?
A "CUTE GIRL"...
OH MISS, ARE YOU HERE ALONE? SHALL WE SHED THE SWEAT OF YOUTH TOGETHER..
ALL RIGHT! COURAGE! LET'S FIGHT!
I'LL GET THIS OVER WITH FAST.
I MEAN, I'M GONNA GET TURNED DOWN NO MATTER WHAT.
OH CRAP... MY FEVER MIGHT'VE GONE UP.
MY HEAD'S ALL FUZZY...

YUUMA MIO-PENALTY
I PICKED UP A GODDESS!!
What's this cute woman!?
DAZED.
...UH, WHAT? REINA??
STILL DAZED.

GUH.

AH!
WAIT...
tug
Fever on the rise
Psheeeew
GYAAAHH!
Oh, oh, what's going on with me?

Do with me what you will!
Am I just a pushover for anything with Serena's face?!
...THE HELL AM I DOING GETTING ALL EXCITED OVER REINA?!
And what's with the ba-dmp ba-dmp!!
DAZED AND SELF-LOATHING.
ba-dmp ba-dmp
WAIT.
WHAT...
Ba-dmp ba-dmp
THIS IS WEIRD... REINA.
ba-dmp ba-dmp
IT MUST BE REINA!!

REINA?
SOU-ICHI!
Huh
WANT SOME-THING TO DRINK?
YOU KNEW IT WAS ME?
EVEN DRESSED LIKE THIS?
OF COURSE I KNEW
THAT'S A GOOD LOOK FOR YOU TOO.

YOU'RE LIKE...
...AN IMPORTANT LITTLE SISTER TO ME.
ROUNDID
IS BLACK TEA OKAY?
I...
I'M--!
I'M ON A DATE RIGHT NOW, YOU KNOW?
I'M BUSY.
AND YOU TOO.
THIS TIME FOR SURE...
YOU BETTER MAKE IT WORK WITH MY BIG SISTER.
BIG BROTHER.

AH!
REINA?!
HM?
UHH...
I knew something was up... so I was getting excited over Yuuma...
I could hardly tell with my head pounding so much.
MY PUNISHMENT WAS TO EXCHANGE CLOTHES WITH REINA AND PICK YOU UP.
WHAT ARE YOU MAKING US DO, REINA-SAN...?
YEAH.
...THEN...
IF THAT'S... REINA...
...YUUMA...?

EH?
...NOTHING.
BECAUSE I LOOK LIKE SERENA?
AH... I GET WAY TOO WORKED UP, SEEING YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT...
I GUESS SHE WENT TO SEE MIKAGE.
BUT I WONDER WHERE REINA WOULD GO WEARING MY CLOTHES?
DAMMIT...
I MEANT TO BRING HER HERE TO CHEER HER UP, BUT...
HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU'RE PRETTY UNSTEADY.
I'M... FINE...
ガッ
クラッ

...I MADE THINGS EVEN TOUGHER ON HER.
OH, REINA.
YOU'VE GOTTEN GOOD.

ポーン
ポーン
ポーン
OH MISS...
ARE YOU HERE ALONE?

YOU'RE REALLY CUTE.
WANNA HANG OUT WITH ME?
OH, WOW.
TOTALLY DENIED, HUH?
...WHAT A SUCKY PICKUP.

...DID YOU RUN INTO YUUMA?
UH, YEAH! I WAS SUPER SHOCKED!
BE GRATEFUL THAT I LET YOU SEE YOUR BELOVED SERENA.
...STOP TALKING ONLY ABOUT SERENA.
BUT...
CONSIDER IT MY RETURN FAVOR...
...FOR BEING NOSY AND INVITING ME OUT HERE...
ENOUGH... LOOK AHEAD TOWARD THE FUTURE, YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE IN YOUR CASE...
...IT WON'T GO THE WAY IT HAS FOR MY BIG SISTER AND SOUICHI. IT CAN'T.
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.

I WANNA BE...
...COOL LIKE YOU...
... REINA ...
...AND YET...
...WIPING AWAY ONE TEAR...
...AND YET...
...GOING EVER FORWARD.

...UH.
WHAT ARE YOU BLATHERING ON ABOUT?
I'M TRYING TO WARN YOU, SO...
WHA...
HEY.
HE...

WHAT'RE ...
SORR...
I HIT...
...MY LIMIT...

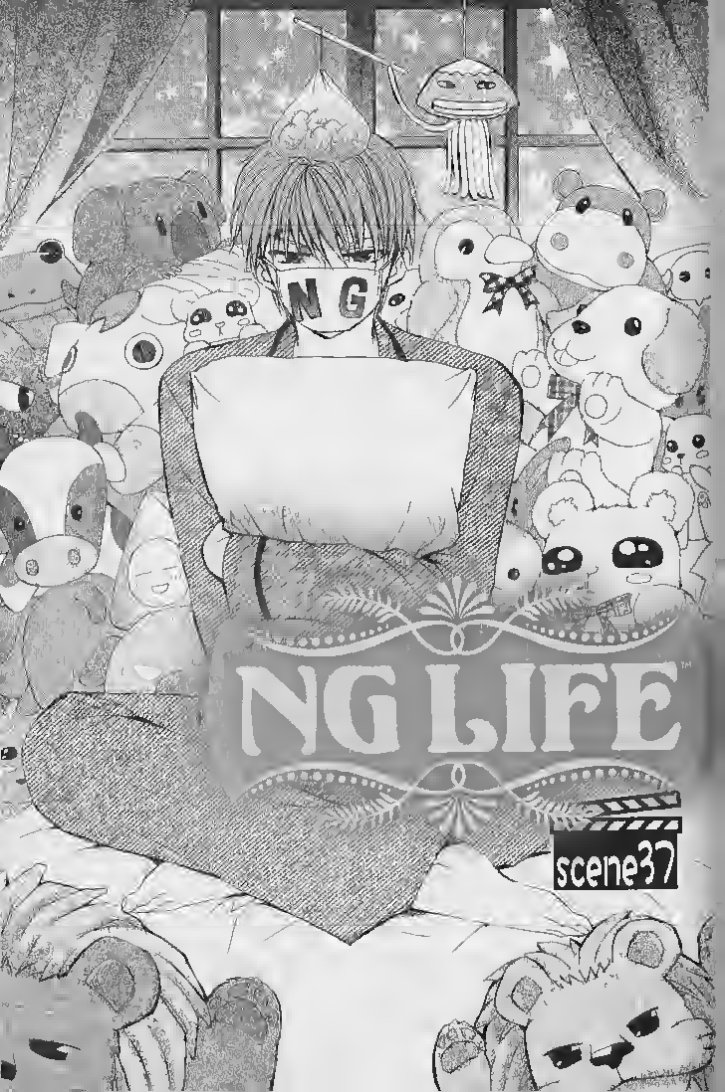
GAH!
YOU'RE BURNING UP...!

DON'T TELL ME HE WAS PUSHING HIMSELF THE WHOLE TIME.

HM?
Whoa!

YOU GIANT DORK.
...WHEN I KNOW YOU DON'T MEAN IT.
... SHOULDN'T BE NICE TO ME...
YOU REALLY...
WITH SOMEONE I HAVE NO CHANCE WITH.
I WON'T FALL IN LOVE ANYMORE
BECAUSE I'VE ALREADY DECIDED THAT

BUT.
THANKS.
I'M GLAD...
KEI-CHAN, I GOT YOU SOME MEDICINE.
SERIZAWA-SAN, OVER HERE.
...I MET YOU.
YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS LUMP HOME QUICK.
AHH! HE COL-LAPSED?!


NG
NG LIFE
scene37

On Volume 7's cover, we have the friendly (?!) Saeki family. It's a shame I didn't get to draw them much in the story, but I am very happy I got to do a color illustration of them. There's actually quite a bit I want to draw related to this family though. The Daddy/Mommy couple was popular with some people. Doesn't Renka-san look happy on the cover? If I could be any character out of the NG cast, then it would definitely be Renka-san (laughs), yup. Marine Serizawa would be cool too.

YOUR NEXT LIFE.
YAAY! IT'S SERENA AND THEM! ♡
EVERYONE'S WAITING, SO WHY DON'T YOU HURRY AND PASS ON
THANK YOU!
Hey Sirix!
Lord Sirix over here!
Haven't we met somewhere?
MY NEXT.. LIFE?
YOUR FRIENDS ARE EVEN ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE
...HEY!!
AREN'T YOU SAYING THAT MY FRIENDS ARE IN MY NEXT LIFE?
BUT THE SOULS OF SERENA/ YUUMA AND LOLEUS/ SERIZAWA ARE IN MY PRESENT LIFE!
TAKE ME BACK TO MY PRESENT LIFE!!
CAN'T! THE BOAT THAT HAS BEGUN ROWING CAN ONLY GO FORWARD.
NOOO!! AT LEAST SEND ME TO MY PAST LIFE!
YOU'RE TALKING EVEN LESS SENSE.
Then I'm gonna swim back!!
Aahhh!!

Gasp!
KEIDA!!
I'M SO GLAD! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE DIED FROM YOUR COLD!
IN WHAT WORLD DOES SOMEONE DIE AFTER CATCHING A COLD FROM FALLING IN A RIVER?
I...
YOU FAINTED AFTER DRINKING THE HOT GINGER WATER RENKA MADE.
THAT'S RIGHT! I SAW THE RIVER STYX!
OH YEAH...
...I CAUGHT A COLD, HUH?
BE-CAUSE OF ME?

NOW IT SEEMS THAT THE HOT GINGER WATER MY MOM MADE FINISHED ME OFF.
BECAUSE MY BODY GOT CHILLED GOING INTO A RIVER A FEW DAYS BACK...
...AND SWEATING FROM SPORTS AFTER THAT MADE IT WORSE.
IF IT WERE NORMAL HOT GINGER WATER, SURE.
BUT HOT GINGER WATER SHOULD WORK WONDERS ON COLDS
How odd
OH, BUT...
KEIDAI.
...KINDA MAKES ME FEEL TICKLISH, LIKE A KID.
...TO HAVE EVEN PARENTS LIKE MINE TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN I HAVE A COLD...
...YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE BROTHER OR SISTER.
THIS ISN'T THE BEST TIME, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT WE NEED TO TELL YOU.
HUH?
TRUTH IS...

TODAY'S OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.
OH...
Stop! You know you can't win against Shuugo-san
JUST KIDDING.
NO, WAIT...
BUT CONSIDERING YOUR CONDITION, I HAVE REGRETTABLY CANCELED IT.
YEAH...
I MADE RESERVATIONS FOR US AT THE RESTAURANT ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE ROYAL HOTEL.
UH HUH...
IT'S AN IMPORTANT DAY THAT COMES ONCE A YEAR.
AND SO THOSE TWO SET OFF ON A DATE...
...LEAVING THEIR SON LAID UP WITH A COLD.
Rest up hon!
Well that's how it is
I'm positive the two of you planned to go alone in the first place!
I WILL NOT ACCEPT THIS MARRIAGE!! NEVER!
...You have no anniversary!
IF YOU GET WORKED UP, YOUR FEVER WILL RISE.
Since I made them for the whole family all three of us.
JUST YOURS, THAT IS.

I had so much fun drawing this particular story (laughs) Basically, for me, drawing stories with this sort of pace is the most fun

Renka-san's not a good cook, so I bet that hot ginger water tasted awful I don't like it either I hate colds that start in the throat the most, so as soon as my throat starts feeling sore, I just start gargling with a strong black tea every chance I get It actually works really well!

I don't normally catch a lot of colds but the way my body is, when I do get one, it takes forever to go away, plus I'm a big baby about pain So it's one of my biggest fears to be sick during work

When I was a student, I could just take off from school, so I'd often think up all these different ways of forcing a fever on myself— (Heeey!)

OH WELL, GUESS I'LL JUST TAKE IT EASY TODAY.
I... I'M THIRSTY.
AND THEN MEDICINE... WAIT, AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO TAKE IT WITH A MEAL?
I HAVE TO EAT SOMETHING
SO TIRED...

IT'S SO QUIET.
LORD SIRIX.
...IF I DIDN'T FEEL WELL, SERENA WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.
IF THIS WERE BACK IN THE PAST...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHEN MY FOLKS ARE GONNA BE BACK...
LORD SIRIX, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
KEIDAI.
YOU ALL RIGHT?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...
You missed school today, right?
I CAME TO CHECK UP ON YOU.
IF YOU'RE GONNA SLEEP, SLEEP ON THE BED.
Why does my present life have to be like this?
YUUMA.
LIKE I DON'T KNOW ALL THE DIFFERENT PLACES YOU GUYS HIDE YOUR KEYS.
NO, I MEAN HOW DID YOU GET IN? AREN'T THE DOORS LOCKED...?
I'M NURSING YOU BACK TO HEALTH TODAY.
WHA?
YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO MAKE IT WHEN SERIZAWA-SAN HAD A COLD, REMEMBER?
YOU'RE SICK, QUIET DOWN.
I'LL GO MAKE YOU SOME HOT LEMON RIGHT NOW.
Mom! What is going on with our security system?!

I'M SO HAPPY TO BE NURSED BACK TO HEALTH BY SERENA, EVEN IN MY PRESENT LIFE...
Huh
WHERE'S SERIZAWA?
SERIZAWA-SAN?

I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE.
I GUESS SHE'S AT HOME?
I... I SEE...
YEAH, TRUE.
BUT FOR SOME REASON...
...IT FELT LIKE SHE WAS HERE...

Huh?
HELLO, YUUMA-KUN...?

Clatter
clatter
crash
shatter
Bzzzzzzp
bzzzzzzp
.....

YUUMA CAME OVER AND ALL...
NO, NOT LIKE IT ISN'T STILL GOOD EVEN WITHOUT SERIZAWA, RIGHT?
WELL, TO BED, TO BED.

HERE.
DRINK UP!
DRINK UP? THERE'S A DISASTER ZONE BEHIND YOU...
...NEVER MIND!
NEVER MIND?! AND ISN'T THIS NOT LEMON DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE I TAUGHT YOU TO MAKE?
IT'S THE KEIDAI SPECIAL VERSION! I MIXED IN AN ENERGY DRINK AND PUT IN 1000 MG OF TAURINE COMBINED WITH PROTEIN.
I CAN'T DRINK SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
Aww
JUST KIDDIN'! HERE GOES NOTHIN'! ♡

キーコ
キーコ
WHY DON'T YOU PASS ON TO YOUR NEXT LIFE? QUICKLY NOW.
NO WAY! TO LEAVE FOR MY NEXT LIFE DUE TO A MERE COLD...
NO, I WASN'T PLANNING TO, BUT...
Forces down the drink from hell
IT'S YOU. AGAIN.
WHAT THE HECK? RANDOM!
I DO HAVE ONE.
A GIRL WHO'LL COME CHECK IN ON ME...
OH... BUT SHE DIDN'T COME TODAY.
SHE ALWAYS COMES NO MATTER WHAT AT TIMES LIKE THIS.
BECAUSE SHE'S MY VERY BEST FRIEND...
UH HUUUUH.
SPEAKING OF COLDS, YOU ARE PITIFUL TOO, YES?
HOW YOU CAN'T GET A SINGLE GIRL TO COME CHECK IN ON YOU?
WHA...
キーコ
キーコ

IF SHE'S YOUR VERY BEST FRIEND, WHY HASN'T SHE COME?
DIDN'T YOU ALSO GO CHECK IN ON HER RIGHT AWAY WHEN SHE HAD A COLD?
IF SHE'S YOUR VERY BEST FRIEND, SHE'D BE THE VERY FIRST TO RUSH IN AT TIMES LIKE THIS, NO?
WELL, SHE'S BUSY WITH LOTS OF STUFF TOO...
FULL SPEED AHEAD!!
I SAID TAKE ME BACK!!
No thank you!!
Oh, I'll give you a frequent customer stamp card
TH.. THEN TAKE ME BACK! I'M SURE WHEN I WAKE UP SHE'LL HAVE COME...
PERHAPS THE ONE WHO CARES FOR THE OTHER IS YOU ALONE?

はっ
Gasp!
S...
SEEE! THERE WAS A GIRL (?) THERE!!
Look look, old man ferryman! Not the person I thought but...
WHO YOU CALLIN' A GIRL?!
HUH? SHINOGU-SAN...
I GOT A REPORT FROM YUUMA THAT YOU HAD TURNED BLUE AND WEREN'T MOVING.
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE OKAY IF WE JUST LEFT YOU ALONE, BUT YUUMA TOLD ME TO COME.
THIS IS RARE.

SHINOGU-SAN CAME OVER.
JEEZ, A COLD. YOU'RE SUCH A BOTHER.
BUT SHE DIDN'T COME...
OPEN YOUR MOUTH.
UH?
I MADE YOU RICE GRUEL, SO EAT IT, TAKE SOME MEDS, AND GO TO SLEEP.
NO WAY!
SHINOGU-SAN'S BEING NICE?!
IT'S ENOUGH OF A MIRACLE THAT HE CAME TO CHECK IN ON ME, BUT...
...RICE GRUEL ...?!
DON'T TELL ME... ...SHINOGU-SAN...
WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT'S...
...DEFINITELY POISONED.

OH, I'M JUST EXERCISING MY NECK A BIT...
WHAT THE--?
HMM...
Push
Push
ニコタタタ
タタタ
タタ
WHAT THE HELL, BASTARD?! ARE YOU SAYING YOU WON'T EAT THE RICE GRUEL I MADE?!
BECAUSE I LEARNED IN OUR PAST LIVES THAT WHEN MISS SMYRNA WAS NICE, IT WAS A WARNING SIGN!
OH SIRIN' WON'T YOU HAVE A GLASS OF (POISONED) WINE?
I SEE... SO YOU'RE SAYING I POISONED THIS...
WHA?

AND HERE I THOUGHT I WOULD BE ALL SAINTLY AND NICE SINCE YOU'RE SICK... AND I JUST GET ATTITUDE...?!
WHA?
SO IT WASN'T POISONED?
HOLD HIM DOWN, YUUMA.
GOT HIM!
I SEE, I SEE.
YOU'D PREFER I WERE THE DEVIL?
WELL, SORRY TO DISAPPOINT.
N-N-N-NO, THAT REALLY ISN'T...!
IT'S NOT POISONED, BUT I'LL FEED YOU THIS WHOLE SUPER-HEATED POT.
NOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!
It fuuuuurns!

ギーコ
ギーコ
NAH, THAT WAS MY FAULT JUST NOW..
IF YOU'RE GETTING BULLIED, WHY DON'T YOU JUST PASS ON TO YOUR NEXT LIFE?
CHANGED MY IMAGE A BIT...
THOSE ARE SOME LIPS YOU GOT THERE.
Sigh
YOU LIAR.
NO, I...WAS JUST WAXING NOSTALGIC ABOUT GETTING NURSED BY SEREHA
Heh
A SIGN.
I WONDER WHO'S ON YOUR MIND!

NO ONE WOULD THINK A COLD WOULD SEND ME TO THE RIVER STYX THREE TIMES.
HOW CRUEL!
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE BEEN FORCED TO THE BRINK OF THE RIVER STYX THREE TIMES NOW.
NOOOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, YOUR FEMALE BEST FRIEND DIDN'T COME BY, DID SHE?
HOW AM I A LIAR?
WHAT A FICKLE FRIENDSHIP
UGH, WELL...
BUT STILL, WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO AT LEAST HAVE GOTTEN A "YOU OKAY?" TEXT?
LISTEN TO ME!!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!!
SHE'S ALWAYS DOING THINGS FOR ME ...
I said, no thanks!
Oh, lemme stomp your card
THAT'S NOT TRUE!!

SHE'S NOT HERE...
.....
OH...
Gasp!
GAH, I'M DUMB. WHO AM I LOOKING FOR?
...KIND OF PATHETIC, HUH.
...REALLY AM...
I...
SO WHAT IF SHE DOESN'T COME BY...
Rabbit Mimi
IS SOMEONE DOWN-STAIRS...?
IS IT?!
SERI...

おろ!!
OH, WHAT? HE LOOKS FINE.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, KEIDAI?
WE CAME TO CHECK IN ON YOU. DID YOU WANT SOME CAKE?
KEIDAI, TEA.
SHUNA-SAN, CHOCOLATE MOUSSE FOR ME!
KEIDAI, GET ME THE SEQUEL TO THIS MANGA.
THE... THE GANG'S ALL HERE.
HEARD YOU CAUGHT A COLD FROM GOING INTO THE RIVER? WEAK, DUDE.
ALSO WENT INTO THE RIVER.
WHAT'S UP? ARE YOU UNHAPPY EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE CAME OVER?
I'M HAPPY!
OH MAN, IT'S LIKE ONLY THE HIGH-MAINTENANCE PEOPLE MULTIPLIED.
...DO YOU WANT SERIZAWA-SAN TO COME?
WHA...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE IT.
YUH...!
EEYAH-HHHHH!!

WHAT IS IT, SHINOGU-NII-CHAN?
バタバタ
RO--
RO--
RO--
ROACH!! THERE'S A ROACH!!
HM?
WHAT, A COCK-ROACH?
WHERE?
WHERE?
WHERE?!
OVER THERE, BY THE CUR-TAINS!
EEEE!! IT MOVED!!
DO YOU WANT ME TO SMACK YOU, KEIDAI?!
YOU'RE SCARIER THAN THE COCKROACH, SHINOGU-SAN.
GOOD LUCK, FROM THAT POSITION

I'M SURPRISED! I THOUGHT YOU'D PUMMEL A ROACH WITH YOUR FIST, SHUNA-SAN.
C-COCK-ROACHES AND I ARE...
PUM-MEL WITH HER FIST...
Aha ha ha ha!
DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT, KEIDAI!
IT'S YOUR HOUSE'S COCKROACH, ISN'T IT?!
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I'M KEEPING IT AS A PET...
TAKE THAT.
Scuttle
AND THAT.
Scuttle
NO GOOD. I CANNOT FELL A SINGLE ONE TODAY...
ALL RIGHT! I'LL...
BAM!
buzzzz
GAH!
EEE!

I'M SCARED OF ROACHES TOO.
DAMMIT, MIKAGE, DO SOMETHING!!
LIAR!
I KNOW YOU'RE JUST LAUGHING YOUR ASS OFF WATCHING SHUNA!
WAIT, ROACHES FLY?!
OMIGOD, JUST KILL IT!
IT MAY HAVE SLIPPED YOUR MINDS, BUT...
GO AFTER IT, KEIDAI!
GET IT, KEIDAI!
KEIDAI!
...I HAVE A COLD...
IT WENT OVER THERE!
AH!
KEI-CHAN, DON'T MOVE!!
...THESE NO-GOOD THINGS KEEP HAPPENING...
...ON TODAY OF ALL DAYS...
WHY IS IT THAT...
YOUR CHEST! YOUR CHEST!
AHHH! KEIDAI!

AH...
KEI-CHAN?
IT'S SERIZAWA...
KEI-CHAN
I DID IT...!
Good lah. Mm!
You got it!
SERI... ZAWA...

キーコ
キーコ
WON'T YOU PASS ON TO YOUR NEXT LIFE YET?
MAYBE I SHOULD...
LEAVE ME ALONE ...
And by your best friend to boot
I SUPPOSE YOU WERE A COCKROACH, TAKEN OUT BY ROACH KILLER LIKE THAT.
WH...
...IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
Hiii-ya!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!!
WHO DO YOU MEAN BY "THAT KID"?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, "FEELINGS"...
OLD MAN FERRYMAN...!
SO YOU'RE GONNA PASS ON AFTER ALL?!
This costs money?!
One more stamp and you get a discount!
...KNOW HOW YOU FEEL?
SHOULDN'T YOU LET THAT KID...

KEI-CHAN.
KEI-CHAN.
SERI...
...ZAWA...
WAY TO SPRAY ROACH KILLER ON ME...
SORRY! WHEN I WALKED IN, EVERYONE WAS ALL, "GET IT, GET IT!" SO...
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR NOT COMING TO CHECK IN EARLIER, BUT...
...MY DAD HAD A DEADLINE TODAY, SO MY HANDS WERE TIED...
YOU DON'T NEED TO COME BY IF YOU CAN'T.
NOT LIKE I WAS WAITING FOR YOU...
...I'M LYING.

I WANTED TO SEE YOU.

...I CAN'T GET TO SLEEP.
CAUSE MY BODY... ACHES, AND...
AND EVERY-ONE'S HERE, BUT...
...THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS HERE NO MATTER WHAT WASN'T.
WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT..
...I KINDA REALLY, REALLY...
... WANTED TO SEE ...
...YOUR PACE...
KE .. KEI-CHAN.
WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
SAY IT AGAIN.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE STARTING FROM?
WAY TO SPRAY ROACH KILLER ON ME.
MAYBE IT'S THE COCKROACH PANIC SWEAT I WENT THROUGH
MAYBE IT'S THE WHOLE POT THAT SHINOBU-SAN SHOVED IN MY MOUTH.
MAYBE IT'S THAT HOT LEMON OF YUUMA'S I DRANK.
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MY FEVER IS GOING DOWN ANYTIME SOON.

Dear Shuugo-san and Keidai,

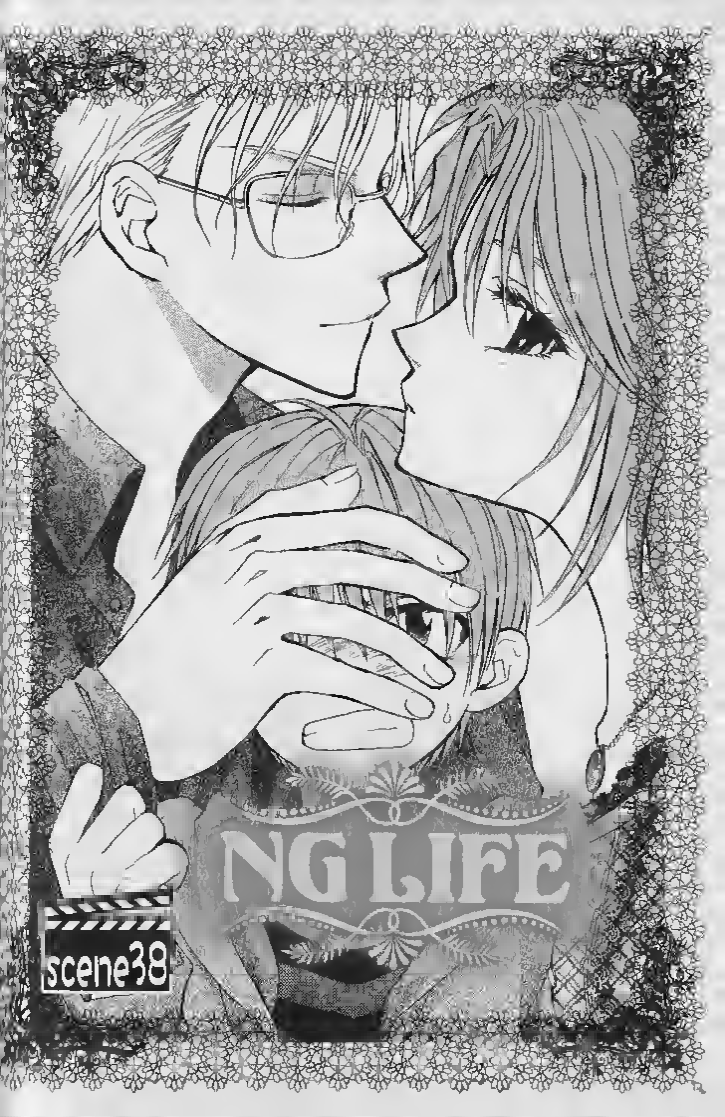
I have been much obliged
to you until now.
Please don't look for me.

Renka

P.S.
Give my regards to Aria-san.

I JUST RECOVERED FROM MY COLD...

...BUT I'M GETTING VERTIGO.


NG LIFE
scene38

I'M AT WORK.
WHAT IS IT?
Dear Shuugo san and Keida!
I have been much obliged to you until now Please don't look for me
Ranka
WHEN I GOT NOME, MOM WAS GONE AND THIS WAS ON THE TABLE...
ANYWAY, LOOK!
IT'S EXAMS SO WE HAVE A HALF DAY.
AND DON'T YOU HAVE SCHOOL?

YES, I KNOW. IF THIS WAS FOR REAL, I'D HAVE SPLIT YOU TWO UP A LONG TIME AGO!
BECAUSE RENKA DOES IMPULSIVE THINGS LIKE THIS SOMETIMES.
WHAT SORT OF SON ARE YOU?
AGAIN?
HOW ARE YOU ALWAYS SO CALM?
Dear Shuuge-san and Keidai
I have been much obliged to you until now Please don't look for me
Renka
P.S. Give my regards to Aria-san
"GIVE MY REGARDS TO ARIA-SAN."
THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS TO ADDRESS, BUT...
...WHAT I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IS THIS!
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN, ARIA?
ARIA WAS MY MOTHER'S NAME IN HER PAST LIFE.
SO HOW...
...I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA.
REALLY?
GUH.

BECAUSE "DON'T LOOK FOR ME" MEANS "LOOK FOR ME"...
...SO FIRST THINGS FIRST, WE HAVE TO GO CATCH HER, DON'T WE?
I'LL TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF.
WAIT HERE.
WHA? IS THAT OKAY?
...DOES CARE ABOUT MOM.
I GUESS HE REALLY...
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE LIKE THIS THAT SHE RAN AWAY!!
WHAT? MR. SAEKI, YOU'RE GOING HOME? BUT YOU PROMISED ME WE'D HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER TODAY!
Until next time.
We'll be so lonely!
You're wonderful today, as always!
...WHEN I SEE HIM LIKE THIS, I GUESS I CAN'T HELP BUT APPROVE...
Has a healthy little guy.
Kei-chaaan it's Mummy and Daddy!
iiiOOOOOOOOOOOOOON
WHEN I FOUND OUT (AS SOON AS I WAS BORN) THAT HE WAS MARRIED TO MY PRECIOUS LITTLE SISTER ARIA IN HIS PRESENT LIFE, I HATED IT, BUT...

FIRST, LET'S THINK WHERE RENKA COULD HAVE GONE...
TO HER PARENTS' PLACE?
NO, THAT'S TOO FAR AWAY.
SHE WOULDN'T HAVE GONE THAT FAR.
H-HUH.
LET'S TRY HERE FIRST.
HERE?!
...SO?
HM? WELL, I HAVEN'T EATEN LUNCH.

A little while back at Hana to Yume, we did a Hot Guy report. In the other Hana to Yume works, there are a good number of characters that would be considered Hot Guys, and each of those Hot Guys are further broken down into categories like "Cool-type Hot Guys," or "Adult-type Hot Guys." So naturally I asked my editor, "I wonder what category my Keidai belongs to?" and he comes back with "Pervert-type Hot Guy."

At least have him be Loser-type or something!!! My poor little boy. He's not that bad at all (..I think) Well, but on the belly band for the books, I saw they had written "A Dreamy Guy" and "A Perfect Hot Guy" and stuff and even I thought "I don't know about that..." But you know I also wondered if it's okay that he's included in the Hana to Yume bonus supplement Hot Guy Book

THIS PLACE SERVES COFFEE THAT SUITS MY PALATE JUST RIGHT.
YOU MEAN THIS ISN'T SOMEPLACE MOM GOES A LOT OR SOMETHING?!
EATEN LUNCH?!
WHO THE HECK CARES?!
DON'T BE SO IMPATIENT.
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO DO THIS?

...IS IT JUST THAT I NEVER NOTICED...
OHH? IS THERE A GIRL THAT'S GETTING YOU IMPATIENT?
TH-THAT'S NOT WHAT I...
HMMM.
BASTARD...
HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE OUR PAST LIFE--- ALWAYS THE GUY AT THE TOP OF THE PYRAMID.
Ha ha ha!
AND IT LOOKS LIKE FOR SOME REASON, MOM LOVES HIM.
PLEASE, LORD... RAOUL.
EVEN THOUGH ARIA HATED HIM...
NO.
BUT...
Lots of memories of how these two did nothing but fight

NO MATTER HOW MUCH HIS MARRIAGE TO MISS SERENA RIDES ON IT...
..TO HAVE MY BIG BROTHER FIGHT A LION IS MADNESS!
...AND WHAT IF IT IS?
MAKE IT STOP! YOU CAN DO THAT, CAN'T YOU?!
OF COURSE NOT.
ISN'T THIS CONVENIENT FOR ME?
IF SIRIX DIES, IT'S MY CHANCE TO WIN OVER SERENA.
...HOW CAN YOU BE...
... SO ...
I WILL NOT DIE.
AND LEAVE ARIA...
...AND SERENA BEHIND.
BESIDES, IF I LOSE, WOULDN'T IT CAUSE YOU, THE COMPETITION ORGANIZER, QUITE A BIT OF TROUBLE YOURSELF?
THEN YOU'RE SAYING YOU'LL WIN AGAINST THE INCREDIBLY FIERCE LION...?
...OF COURSE.

I WILL NOT SULLY THE NAME OF THE HERO OF POMPEII.
I'LL GIVE EVERYONE A SHOW THAT EVEN YOU WILL ACKNOWLEDGE AS SPECTACULAR, AEDILE.
THEN THIS COMPETITION SHALL AROUSE PARTICULAR MERRIMENT.
ARIA, IT IS USELESS ONLY TO SIGH.
WHA...!

SIRIX LUCRETIUS FRONTO DOES NOT BREAK HIS PROMISES.
UNFORTU-NATELY.
.....!
YOU ARE ALWAYS CRYING.
NO THANKS TO YOU...
HOW REGRET-TABLE. IT'S MY FAULT?

...THAT WOULD NOT BE SO BAD... WOULD IT?
WELL, IF IT WERE...
FLASHBACK OVER
SIRIX-SAN, FEELING THAT RAOUL HAD APPROVED OF HIM A LITTLE, DID NOT SEE THE GROWING MOOD AROUND HIM.
I'm a bad big brother...
DON'T TELL ME THAT MOMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MY WARNING FLAG...?
OH MY, KEIOAI-KUN?
How dare you!
I ALSO ASK MYSELF HOW IT IS THAT YOU ARE MY SON.
Ugghh
HOW DID MOM FALL FOR A GUY LIKE THIS?

THESE ARE SERIZAWA'S PARENTS.
OH, HELLO.
OH MY, IS THIS YOUR FATHER?
Grrrr!
EXTRA TIME DURING EXAMS, HMM?
OHHH! ♡ WHAT A DASHING FATHER YOU HAVE! ♡♡ YOU'D MAKE A NICE PICTURE. ♡
And a manga. And a story idea.
OBLIGED... MORE LIKE A PAIN...
YES, HELLO. MY SON IS ALWAYS MUCH OBLIGED TO YOU.
Sksrael
BUT DON'T I ALWAYS TELL YOU HOW PRETTY YOU ARE? MARINE-SAN!!
NO ONE'S EVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO ME BEFORE... ♡
どうも～ん♥
YOU YOURSELF ARE BREATHTAKINGLY ADORABLE.
Gyaaaa-h
MARINE-SAN!!
ON, YES, YES, KEIDAI-KUN.
SHUT UP! THE EMPHASIS IS DIFFERENT.

WE RAN INTO YOUR MOTHER JUST NOW.
!
...SHE SAID SHE WAS TAKING A WALK AND WANDERED OFF TOWARDS A TREE-LINED ROAD.
With a kind of really dangerous looking gait
AND YOU RECOGNIZED HER?
WHERE WAS THIS?!
WELL, IT WAS AROUND HERE, BUT...
I met both Saeki-Parents at once! ♥
AT THE TIME, MII WAS WITH US.
SERIZAWA ...?!
DID SERIZAWA GO HOME?
DAD?
I'M SORRY, BUT SOMETHING IMPORTANT HAS COME UP.
YOU HAVE TO GO HOME ALREADY?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
I WONDER IF I COULD HAVE HAD A FUTURE WITH A MAN LIKE THAT...
Marine! san I hate you!
How wonderful ♥
ANOTHER TIME...
...WE'LL HAVE A MEAL, PERHAPS, WITH OUR FAMILIES.

Kiwame's hatred for the Saeki family grows

I DID NOT!!!
YOU MAKE A MOVE ON SERIZAWA-SAN OR SOME-THING?
HE HATES ME ENOUGH AS IT IS.
DON'T INCITE THAT MAN ANY FURTHER.
THEY WERE AN AMUSING COUPLE, WEREN'T THEY?
YEAH.
Jeez.
MORE IMPOR-TANT, ANY IDEA WHERE MOM WENT?

ALSO, ABOUT THE "ARIA" IN THIS LETTER. I HAVE JUST ONE IDEA.
ARIA WAS...
OH...
THERE'S A PARK WITH A LAKE AT THE END OF THIS TREE-LINED ROAD.
WHENEVER SHE RUNS OFF, SHE USUALLY STOPS IN FRONT OF THE OCEAN OR A LAKE.
HUH?
...THE NAME OF THE CAT I HAD AS A BOY.
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT...
...ARIA-SAN?
ARIA?
HEY... WHO'S ARIA?
RENKA ACTUALLY DID SAY SOMETHING OOO YESTERDAY.

IT'S A LOVELY NAME.
HMM.
I DREAMED OF HER RECENTLY, SO MAYBE I WAS TALKING IN MY SLEEP.
BUT WHEN I HEAR ARIA, IT'S JUST THAT I HAD A CAT BY THAT NAME LONG AGO...
MUST YOU START GRATUITOUS FIRES LIKE THAT?
SHE ASKED ME SO SERIOUSLY THAT I WAS STRUCK WITH THE IMPULSE TO TEASE HER BEFORE I SAID "I DON'T KNOW"...
SOMEHOW... IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S AN IMPORTANT SENTIMENT THERE, BUT
THAT NAME... I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST SO LOVELY.
YES, I THOUGHT I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT HER, BUT..
A DREAM?
.. SHE WAS A PRETTY CAT THAT DID NOTHING BUT MEOW

IT HAS ALREADY...
...BEEN LEFT BEHIND, ON SOME LONG AGO DAY.
THERE SHE IS.
THAT WAS FAST!
PATIENCE.
I DON'T SEE HER. MAYBE SHE'S ALREADY MOVED ON...
WHERE WERE YOU HIDING THAT?

I SEEEEE. SO THIS IS HOW YOU TRICKED MOM.
BUT IF WE SLOWLY CREEP UP FROM BEHIND, LIKE WE'RE SPREADING A NET, WE'LL GET CLOSE.
IF WE ATTACK HER HEAD ON, SHE'LL BE ABLE TO RUN.
WAIT.
OKAY, THEN LET'S GO AND BRING NER BACK HOME NOW!
LIKE I SAID.
UH.
GOING VIA THE LAKE MAKES US THE LEAST DETECTABLE. PLUS, IN THE SWAN, OUR FACES ARE HARD TO SEE SO WE DON'T STAND OUT.
OH, WE'RE STANDING OUT ALL RIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
JUST HOW IS THIS THE WAY TO CLOSE IN ON NER?
スィー スィー
I'VE NEVER SEEN SOME-ONE PEDAL A SWAN BOAT SO ELEGANTLY BEFORE
WOW.

MO...
RENKA-SAN.
I HID WITHOUT THINKING ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WELL, I WAS SORT OF ON A WALK MYSELF.
BUT YOU SEEMED A LITTLE DOWN, SO...
...I WAS WONDER-ING WHAT HAPPENED?
MII-CHAN?!
GOOD TO SEE YOU BACK THERE.
SERIZAWA?!

okay. it's okay...
Mi!-CHAAAN!!
Whisper whisper
...IS WHAT HAPPENED.
I SEE.
WITHOUT THINKING, I'D RUN OUT.
Hmmm
...AND IT WASN'T TOO DISTINCT, WAS IT?
BUT YOU ONLY HEARD HIM SAY IT ONCE IN HIS SLEEP...
BUT HE SAID "LOVELY"!
SO I WAS SLEEP-TALKING.
I can't believe myself
IT WASN'T JUST SLEEP-TALK! CAUSE HIS VOICE WAS SAD AND SENSUAL AND SOUNDED SO COOL!
I KINDA WISH I COULD HAVE HEARD IT.
Enough to get me mad!
Ha!

IT'S JUST ME...
...WHY HE PICKED SOMEONE LIKE ME?
BUT DON'T YOU TWO ALWAYS GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER?
...I DON'T HAVE FAITH IN THAT.
...ON THE VERGE OF TEARS OVER TRIVIAL THINGS LIKE THIS.
EVEN THOUGH I HAVE HIM...
HE'S A WONDERFUL MAN..
...SO HE'S ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN...
...IT FEELS LIKE IT'S JUST ME WHO'S ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT HIM.
...SO I WONDER...

...I TOTALLY GET THOSE FEELINGS.
SINCE...
...I'M SUFFERING FROM AN UN-REQUITED LOVE.
WHAAAT? MII-CHAN, THAT CAN'T BE, CAN IT?
WHA...
NOPE, THAT'S HOW IT IS
SERIZAWA...?
WHA?
LOVE FOR WHO?
SURELY NE MUST LOVE YOU BACK?
QUIET, HEART!
NO, NOT SO MUCH.
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN UN-REQUITED.
WAIT A SECOND.
WHY AM I GETTING NERVOUS?!
CAUSE NE'S UNIQUE.
JEEEZ! IT'S NOT LIKE I'M EXPECTING ANYTHING.

...I WANT TO HEAR HIS VOICE...
BESIDES, I FEEL LIKE I SHOULDN'T LISTEN TO ANY MORE OF THIS.
BUT EVEN NOW...
...AND I WANT TO SEE HIS SMILE.
HE'S VERY LUCKY ...
.. YOU'RE SO RIGHT
...TO HAVE SOMEONE LIKE YOU FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT HIM, MII-CHAN...
ガバッ!!

AAH ...!!
A!!
!!
MOM!!
RENKA-SAN!!

ミシッ
ガーン
ハッハッハー
ハッハッハー

SHU-SHUUGO-SAN?!
KEI-CHAN?!
The drowned baby one-act play again?
ザバーン
JEEZ.
YOU'RE QUITE CARE-LESS.
IT'S TRUE, I'M...
...CARE-LESS AND A PAIN...
YES, YOU REALLY ARE A PAIN.
THEN WHY DID YOU COME?
BECAUSE YOU WROTE "LOOK FOR ME."
I WROTE "DON'T LOOK FOR ME"!
UGH, WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE AND GO TO ARIA-SAN'S...
SHE'S A CAT.
WHA?
ARIA IS THE NAME OF THE CAT I HAD A LONG TIME AGO.

JUST HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU...
...HOW I FEEL BEFORE YOU BELIEVE ME?
NO WAY...
I'M IN QUITE A PICKLE.
...SO.
I WAS JUST CHASING DOWN MY MOM.
KEI-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ..
...AHH...

DID YOU HEAR...
...ALL THAT JUST NOW?
ゴゴゴ
...
YOU...
OH, IF YOU DIDN'T HEAR IT, DON'T WORRY.

"WHO IS IT THAT YOU LOVE?"
Ah ha ha...
IT WASN'T ANY-THING IMPORT-ANT!
Of course I'm interested!!
Ah ha ha
COME ON, TELL ME!
DAMN...
WHAT THE HECK DID I ALMOST BLURT OUT?
NOT THAT I'M IN ANY POSITION TO BE JEALOUS.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME WE WENT HOME?
Plus I'm soaking wet
AND YOU OVER THERE...

THIS HAPPENED SHORTLY AFTER I ENTERED MIDDLE SCHOOL.
AH.
THERE'S A BIRD TRAPPED BY THE GYM WINDOWS.
WHY DO BIRDS THROW THEMSELVES AT CLOSED WINDOWS?
I... I CAN'T REACH.
CALM DOWN, I'M OPENING IT NOW.
EH?
THAT...

...WAS HOW KEI-CHAN AND I MET.
NG LIFE
scene39

Thank y'all kindly!* But I'm from Kumamoto...
Assistants → Mikorun-sama, Rurunga-sama, Kyoko-sama, and my little sister
Super Helper Man in a Pinch →Ryou Sakura sensei, Ryou-sama (For adorning NG Life with beautiful backgrounds and gorgeous tone work!)
My editor Hasegawa-sama (who helps create NG Life alongside me!)
The Hana to Yume Editorial Staff (Who have allowed me to draw NG Life this far!)
Naato-sama (who produces the NG Life comic books!)
My Family and Friends (For being my life's support!) ← ?
The Readers (for recognizing the existence of one Mizuho Kusanagi!)
* Kansai dialect

HM?
LOLEUS...
?!
HE... HELLO?
Why are you crying?
LO...

HUH?
A GIRL?!
...YEAH, KINDA.
I'M SO S-S-S-SORRY!
UM, I...
IS THIS GUY OKAY?
ERRR...
UH...
UH...
I'M...
OH, I HAVE CLUB ACTIVITIES TO GET TO.
AH!
SORRY, I GOTTA GO.
THANKS FOR OPENING THAT WINDOW FOR ME!
Ah
ART ROOM.
YOU GOT HUGGED BY A BOY YOU DON'T KNOW?

YEAH, BY CHANCE.
YOU WERE THERE, KIYO-CHAN?!
THAT WAS KEIDAI SAEKI-KUN. SEVENTH GRADE, CLASS 2.
SERIZAWA'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND KIYONIKO KOTOMIYA
You're quite refreshed.
I WONDER WHAT IT WAS ABOUT.
IF THAT HAPPENED AT THE GYM, I SAW THAT.
HMMM.
THE GIRLS IN CLASS WERE GETTING EXCITED ABOUT HIM, SAYING HE WAS SO MATURE AND COOL.
A QUIET TYPE ...?
HE'S AN NO-NORS STUDENT, GOOD AT BOTH STUDY-ING AND SPORTS.
SAEKI-KUN?
WHAT? NO!
HE CON-FESSED TO YOU, DIDN'T HE?
WHA?
...WILL YOU GO OUT WITH HIM?

I had soooo much fun drawing Keidai and Serizawa's middle school years ♥
There's something so fresh about gakuran and sailor uniforms
Plus drawing Keidai with big eyes was so easy, I wish I could have kept it up!
So, if you're wondering how I came up with Serizawa's surname, it's from Kamo Serizawa of the Shinsengumi, but I really don't know why I made that connection because their personalities and existences have no correlation to one another at all, and really, it was random inspiration that made me think of Kamo Serizawa in my head when naming her. And that's why at first, the thought did cross my mind that Ketomiya-kun should have been "Niimi-kun," but— (Just step away from the Shinsengumi.)
The Taiga drama "Shinsengumi" was playing the other day during work. The actor that portrays Kamo Serizawa in it, Koichi Sato, is sooo handsome! ♥
Also, Masato Sakai's Yamanami-san was really good too ♥
A GIRL?!
LOLEUS!
.....
IT DIDN'T HAVE THAT SORT OF VIBE, YOU KNOW?
HEY, KIYO-CHAN, DO I LOOK LIKE A BOY?
MII-CHAN, ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, YOU'RE A CUTE GIRL.
O-OH...
A little embarrassed
I WONDER WHY.
YEAH...
MORE IMPORTANT, WHY DON'T YOU FOCUS ON YOUR PICTURE?

I CAN'T GET THE IMAGE OF THAT BOY'S TEARS OUT OF MY HEAD.

IS THERE SOMETHING YOU NEED, SAEKI-KUN?
EH? HOW'D YOU KNOW MY NAME...?
MY FRIEND TOLD ME.
OH...
.....
...? WELL, BYE...
WA ~~
WAIT!
WILL YOU BE FRIENDS WITH ME?

かあああ
YOU MAY THINK THIS IS REALLY RANDOM AND WEIRD, BUT...
WELL.
AH...
NO MATTER WHAT...
I WANT TO...
...BE FRIENDS WITH YOU.
へへへな
UGH.
HH.
DAMMIT...
COULD THA SPEECH HAVE BEEN MORE EMBAR-RASSING?

I CAN SAY WITH CONFI-DENCE...
...THAT I'M KIND OF A QUESTIONABLE PERSON.
PHEW, WHAT A WEIGHT OFF.. ARE YOU SURE?! I'M PRETTY DORKY...
Friend-ship!!
REALLY?!
Hurray!!
FINE WITH ME.
Whatever
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT! YOU WERE ALWAYS LIKE THAT!
WELL, YOU HAVE THIS ENTER-TAINING AROMA ABOUT YOU.
.....
Like I said, I'm weird
YOU SAY THAT AS IF YOU KNOW ME.
BUT...
LET'S GET ALONG, FRIEND.
I'M MII SERIZAWA.
WHO ON EARTH...
...WOULD THINK THIS GUY WAS THE MATURE, QUIET TYPE?
Rude

ART ROOM.
OH, SAEKI-KUN, YOU MADE IT. ♡
..HE GIVES OFF SUCH A WARM FEEL.
HEY, WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
YOU TWO HAVE BECOME FAST FRIENDS.
Kya ha ha ha!
.....
ALL RIGHT, NOW STRIP!
All the Saeki kun fangirls will be thrilled!!
I WILL NOT!
You almost got him, Serizawa!
I SAID I'D DO THAT, BUT I DIDN'T SAY I'D DO WEIRD POSES.
YOU SAID YOU'D MODEL FOR THE ART CLUB, DIDN'T YOU?
A plaster statue for sketching purposes
SAEKI-KUN IS REALLY ENERGETIC WHEN HE'S WITH YOU, MII-CHAN.
He looks good, Serizawa!
Saeki kun that statue of Mars suits you

BUT WE'RE GUYS.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IS THE "THEY'RE GOING OUT" RUMOR TRUE?
EH?
WHO YOU CALLIN' A GUY?
WHAT I'LL EARNED BY BECOMING "FRIENDS"...
...IS THAT SAEKI-KUN REALLY DOES THINK OF ME LIKE A GUY FRIEND.
IT SEEMS HE HAD NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE IN HOLDING HANDS OR PUTTING HIS ARM AROUND MY SHOULDER.
AND THEN...
SURE
CAN WE STOP BY THE BOOKSTORE FOR A BIT?
All right let's go!
Really?!
SERIZAWA! I BOUGHT US SOME BREAD
I CAN'T EAT THAT MUCH!
Really?

SERENA...!
SAEKI-KUN?!
...SORRY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMEONE ELSE.

IT'S SO...
...UNBEARABLY...
...PAINFUL.
PAINFUL...?
WHAT A MYSTE-RIOUS PERSON.
THOUGH HE SMILES AT ME...
...SO WARMLY...
THOUGH HE MAKES ME SO HAPPY...
...SOMEHOW HIS EYES DON'T REFLECT THIS WORLD.
IT SEEMS THERE'S SOMEONE SAEKI-KUN HAS LOVED FOREVER AND EVER.

TIRED? YOU CAN TAKE A BREAK.
From modeling
Hold still
NO, I'M FINE, BUT...
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE JUST FRIENDS
HOW WEIRD.
WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A MAS-SAGE?
...I THINK MY NECK IS A LITTLE SORE.
OKAY.
?
INSTEAD, COME SIT HERE.
NAH, IT'S OKAY.

SA... SAEKI-KU...
AHH, THAT'S COMFY.
THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS JUST HOW HE IS.
Doesn't consider any thing
I HOPE HE CAN'T HEAR...
...THE SOUND OF MY HEART.
I CAN'T DRAW LIKE THIS.
OH, THAT'S NO GOOD.
CAUSE IT MAKES ME SUPER HAPPY WHEN YOU DRAW, SERIZAWA.
WHY?

MY BEST FRIEND A LONG TIME AGO...
...LOVED DRAWING PICTURES TOO.
OH! UH...
THAT'S... YOU TWO ARE KINDA ALIKE.
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME DRAWING?
YOUR OLD BEST FRIEND?
WHA?
...SO BECAUSE WE'RE ALIKE, THAT'S WHY YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE FRIENDS NO MATTER WHAT?
I'M...
...NOT THE FRIEND YOU WISHED FOR, SAEKI-KUN.

SAEKI-KUN, YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE MY FRIEND, BUT...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SAEKI-KUN
WHEN I THINK ABOUT THAT, IT FEELS LIKE YOU'LL UP AND VANISH, SOMEDAY CHASING AFTER SOMEONE ELSE.
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SMILING AT ME, YOU SEEM LONELY
...TRULY HIS FRIEND, I WOULDN'T SAY IT.
IF I WERE...
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE TALKING TO ME, SAEKI-KUN, YOUR HEART ISN'T HERE.
AM I JUST A SUBSTI-TUTE FOR SOMEONE?
SERIZAWA ...?
I...
I JUST FEEL LONELY AND WANT TO RUN AWAY.
...CAN'T BE YOUR FRIEND, SAEKI-KUN.
SORRY.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN'T SEEM TO KEEP...

...THE PROMISE WE MADE TO BE FRIENDS.

SERI-ZAWA!
BECAUSE I ARBITRARILY SAID...
WE SHOULD STOP BEING FRIENDS AND HURT HIM.
SAEKI-KUN?!
WHA?
HEY ...!
COME WITH ME A SEC.
...WHA ~~
SAEKI-KUN!
WHA ...?

キュッ
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO FOR YOU TO BE MY FRIEND?!
HE DOESN'T GET IT...!
I'M SORRY... I MADE YOU UNHAPPY SOMEHOW, SERIZAWA.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, I JUST...
THERE'S ..
...SOMETHING IMPORTANT ABOUT ME I HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE ELSE YET.

...I THOUGHT I'D TELL YOU ABOUT ME.
BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO KNOW ME...
.. EVEN IF YOU THINK I'M A WEIRDO...
AND IT'S A STORY..
.. SO REMOVED FROM REALITY THAT DEPENDING ON THE PERSON, THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND IT.
AND YET...!
BECAUSE YOU'RE...
...THE PERSON WHO FILLED MY EMPTY HEART HALFWAY UP, SERIZAWA.

WON'T YOU GIVE ME ONE MORE CHANCE..
...FOR US TO GO BACK TO BEING FRIENDS?
...WHY?
WHY ME?
BECAUSE I LIKE YOU.

WAIT, WHAT?!
YOU BIG SPAZ!
GRR, YOU MAKE ME SO MAD!
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE!
BUT IT'S TRUE!
WHY ALL THIS?
BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE MY FRIEND, I'LL GET YOU TO WANT TO SOMEHOW!
WHAT'S SOME-NOW?!
THAT'S UP TO YOU!
IF YOU HATE ME, I'LL WORK HARD TO MAKE YOU LIKE ME, SERIZAWA!
I'm getting sucked in
Useless
No dust a to retreat
I do like you

I'LL TRY MY BEST...
HUH?
NO CHOICE, HUH...
...TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU.

AND THUS, THE "FRIENDSHIP ALLIANCE" THE TWO OF US BEGAN...
TH-THAT'S RIGHT, SHE IS A GIRL.
UH.
Bad thoughts bad thoughts
...HAS REACHED ITS 5TH YEAR...
LOOK, LOOK.
OH, KEI-CHAN.
THERE'S A BIRD TRAPPED BY THE GYM WINDOWS.
OH YEAH, THERE IS.

I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE FIRST TIME WE MET JUST NOW.
...ME TOO.
BACK THEN, WE BOTH HAPPENED TO NOTICE THE BIRD AT THE SAME TIME...
IT DIDN'T JUST HAPPEN.
IT WAS FATE...
KEI-CHAN, GET OVER YOURSELF!
Kyahaha
Immune
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT.
WHEN WE WERE IN SEVENTH GRADE...
...PEOPLE SAID YOU WERE QUIET AND MATURE TYPE, DIDN'T THEY?
THEN I MET YOU AND FELL RIGHT OFF THAT TRACK.
AND DERAILED COMPLETELY WHEN YOU MET YUUMA-KUN.
AM I RIGHT?!
SHUT UP.

DO YOU REMEMBER?
WHEN YOU TOLD ME, "BE MY FRIEND BECAUSE I LIKE YOU?"
...I NEVER SAID THAT.
YES YOU DID.
I NEVER SAID THAT, IDIOT!
YES YOU DID SENILE ALREADY?
WHAT! YOU'RE HEARING THINGS, HEARING THINGS!
THAT'S RICH COMING FROM SOMEONE WHO LIVES IN HIS DREAMS ALL YEAR ROUND!
OH, PERFECT TIMING, GUYS.
KEIDAI! OPEN THIS WINDOW FOR US.
THIS LITTLE GUY'S DUMB LIKE YOU, SO HE'S RUSHING AT THE WINDOW.

A FEW MORE KIDS WHO NOTICED THE BIRD AT THE SAME TIME.
IT MUST BE FATE.
SHUT UP!
IT SURE ISN'T EASY EVEN BEING FRIENDS WITH YOU.
I WON-DER HOW LONG OUR FRIENDSHIP ALLIANCE WILL GO ON?
Hey is ever here!
Step thrilling
JUST A LITTLE LONGER.
JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

TRAVELING
TWINS
NG LIFE
scene40

Love Simulation

Sakura Representative = Keidai

You are mine
It's not like I like you or anything
Our main character Keidai Saeki enjoys a fun school life surrounded by a variety of girls
Uh I'm a guy
Let's play, Ka! chan!

An NG Life-Like Account

Once you finish all the characters from the present life you open up the past life characters too ~♥

I really wish I could play a game like that And that ending of course
By my assistant, Ryou Sakura sensei

After my younger sister saw the commentary made in scene34's sidebar where I gave away my inspiration for Sarizawa's surname, she said to me "That's a story that benefits no one, isn't it?" I know that I have lots of things I want to tell my readers, but when put on the spot, I tend to write the dumbest things. If you have questions for me, or want me to talk about something in particular, please write me a letter.

Address
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90036

The letters and illustrations you keep sending me are just so wonderful! Thank you so much for them!

TODAY, SERIZAWA MADE A PREDICTION ABOUT MY NO GOOD FUTURE.
DON'T SAY THAT WHILE LOOKING SO HAPPY!!
HEY...
WOW, THAT SUCKS.
ARE YOU GOOD AT FORTUNE-TELLING, MII?
A TAROT READING?
NOPE! I'M A COMPLETE BEGINNER.
MY MOM WAS DRAWING TAROT ILLUSTRATIONS, SO I GOT A SET.
SO I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY GIVE FORTUNE-TELLING A GO.
IF YOU'RE A BEGINNER, YOUR CREDIBILITY'S LOW!
"YOU WILL LOSE SOMETHING IMPORTANT" ..?

The NG Life story currently being run is just about getting to the apex of its climax

And I'm so happy that my wish came true and I was finally able to record the past life arc of my comics in this volume.♥

The flow is really different from the regular story, but it's still another part of the NG Life world

Although I wrote in Volume 1 that NG Life was a "light comedy," lately it really hasn't been Even though I knew it wouldn't be that light back then all I really wanted was for my readers to have fun reading it. For sure when I was drawing scenes 1 and 2, I had anticipated there being more gag context in the future.

But since the past life was so serious, this eclectic mix is what the NG world has become

P-please try to follow along...

WHY IS IT ALL ABOUT YUUMA?
...OR YUUMA-KUN GETS A GIRL-FRIEND AND NO LONGER HANGS OUT WITH YOU OR SOMETHING.
YEAH, YEAH. LIKE YUUMA-KUN ANNOUNCES THE END OF YOUR FRIENDSHIP ...
BECAUSE ISN'T SERENA THE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU, KEI-CHAN?
.....
SOMETHING IMPORTANT...
AAH!

AH!
AHHH!!
SORRY...! I TOTALLY STEPPED ON YOUR GLASSES ...!
... UM, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
... YEAH.
I'M SO SORRY, I REALLY AM! I'LL PAY FOR THEM, SO...
OH NO NO, THEY'RE BUSTED!

HUH?
WHERE HAVE I SEEN...
...KIYO-CHAN?
IS THAT YOU, KIYO-CHAN?!
KIYO-CHAN...?
COME ON, HE WAS IN ART CLUB WHEN WE WERE IN SEVENTH GRADE. KIYOHIKO KOTOMIYA-KUN.
OH! YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, KIYO-CHAN?!
MII-CHAN... AND SAEKI-KUN?
It's all blurry, so I can't really see
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
KIYOHIKO KOTOMIYA-KUN IS MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND WHO WENT TO THIS SCHOOL UNTIL SEVENTH GRADE.
BUT HE TRANS-FERRED WHEN WE WENT UP TO EIGHT...
WE MOVED BACK RE-CENTLY.
STARTING TODAY, I'M ENROLLED HERE AGAIN.
NO KIDDING! IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN SO SUDDENLY!
I WAS SURPRISED TO RUN INTO YOU HERE TOO.
I'M SORRY, KOTOMIYA. I'LL PAY FOR YOUR GLASSES.
I BET IT'LL BE INCON-VENIENT.
IF SOME-THING HAPPENS, I'LL LEND A...
IT'S FINE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY ME.
GLASSES ARE QUITE EXPENSIVE, YOU KNOW.
AND WE'RE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES, SAEKI-KUN.
SO THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO, IS THERE?
!
WELL... TRUE, BUT...
WELL, I'LL BE GOING BACK TO MY CLASS
I... I MADE HIM MAD...
KEI-CHAN, KEI-CHAN!
IT'S OKAY! HE MAY LOOK MAD, BUT THAT'S NORMAL FOR HIM.
THAT'S A LIE.
HE WAS MAD JUST NOW... DEFINITELY MAD.

SAEKI-KUN, PUT THIS ON AND MODEL FOR US!
...SO WHAT KIND OF GUY WAS HE AGAIN...?
HE'S NOT, HE'S NOT.
COME ON, LET'S GET BACK OURSELVES.
KIYOHIKO KOTOMIYA...
SAEKI-KUN, DO A POSE LIKE THIS!
IT'S NO GOOD, I CAN ONLY SEE SERIZAWA!
AND HE WASN'T THERE ANYMORE IN EIGHTH GRADE...
AT ART CLUB WHEN I'D GO TO MODEL SOMETIMES, WE ONLY EXCHANGED A FEW GLANCES.
I DID A REALLY BAD THING...
Fweet!

HEY, KOTOMIYA. SO YOU'RE IN THE NEXT CLASS OVER?
GUESS WE HAVE P.E. TO-GETHER.
FOR P.E., THE GIRLS AND GUYS ARE SEPARATED AND TWO CLASSES ARE COMBINED.
TODAY'S SOCCER, BUT YOU GONNA BE OKAY? IF IT LOOKS DANGEROUS, YOU SHOULD JUST WATCH...
I'M NOT GONNA JUIST WATCH RIGHT AFTER TRANSFERRING IN. LEAVE ME ALONE.
HE... HE'S GLARING AT ME.
I KNEW IT, HE'S MAD!
Dammit, Saeki, that was boring! Fall over or give us a performance or something!

KOTOMIYA... THIS MUST BE SO BORING FOR HIM.
BUT, HE DID SAY HE WANTED TO PLAY.
SAEKI!
Ack!

KOTOMIYA?!
HEY NEW KID, YOU OKAY?!
AAHH! HIS NOSE IS BLEEDING!
A TISSUE! I DON'T HAVE ONE! UMM, HERE'S A HANDKER-CHI...
HOW VERY PREPARED WE ARE.
USE THIS.
...I DON'T NEED IT.
COME ON...
I SAID, I DON'T NEED IT!

...SO MEAN...
SAEKI, WHAT'S WRONG?
...COACH, I'M GOING TO GO TAKE CARE OF THIS.
I KNOW, RIGHT? AND YOU WERE SO NICE TO HIM...
Now now
NOT ONLY DID I BREAK HIS GLASSES, BUT I GAVE NIM A NOSE BLEED!! IDIOT IDIOT IDIOT! DAMN BLOOD, YOU COULD HAVE BLED FROM MY NOSE IF YOU HAD TO!!
I'm sorry. I'm so, so sorry
Coach! Saeki's banging his face against the ground!
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH ME, DAMMIT!!!
WITH YOU?

HOW COULD HE BE FINE...?
IF IT'S KIYO-CHAN, HE'S FINE.
CHEER UP, KEI-CHAN.
I EMBARRASSED HIM RIGHT AFTER HE TRANSFERRED IN.
I HOPE HE'S NOT GETTING ANY CRAP FOR IT FROM HIS CLASS, BUT..
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...
IT'S BEST TO JUST BE YOURSELF, KEI-CHAN!
ROGER!
LET'S GO OUT FOR A LITTLE AFTER CLASS.
I GUESS.

Glasses Palace
WHAT ABOUT THESE?
KEI-CHAN.
UM, SERIZAWA.
I'M SURE IT'LL MAKE KIYO-CHAN HAPPY.
YOU HAVE MORE FAITH THAN I DO.
I KNOOOW, THEY'RE FOR KIYO-CHAN.
YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE HIM NEW GLASSES AS A PRESENT. AND PROPERLY APOLOGIZE.
HOW ABOUT THESE THEN?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TRYING ON SUN-GLASSES?
TOO GAUDY. THEY'RE NOT YOUR GLASSES, YOU KNOW.

YOU DORK.
LET'S GET THESE!
I WANT TO DO WHAT I CAN.
YOU'RE BOTH HERE.
KOTO-MIYA.
AND AS CLOSE AS EVER.
I CAN'T REALLY LIVE LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW.
KOTOMIYA, ARE YOU HERE TO BUY GLASSES...?
WELL, OF COURSE HE'D COME TO AN OPTICIAN'S.

THIS IS MY APOLOGY, SO WON'T YOU ACCEPT IT?
BECAUSE THE GLASSES WERE MY FAULT AND I HIT YOU WITH A BALL.
I DON'T NEED IT.
...WHY?
stuff like which frames or the prescription I kinda jumped the gun
Now that I think about it I don't know
KOTOMIYA, I'LL PAY FOR THE COST OF YOUR GLASSES.
YES, CERTAINLY BOTH THE GLASSES AND THE NOSEBLEED WERE YOUR FAULT.
BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL TAKE ANY MONEY FROM YOU.
WE'RE NOT THAT CLOSE.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
ANOTHER STORE...
..WOULD SUCK.
TO HAVE YOU AROUND WHILE I'M SHOPPING...
KIYO-CHAN!
HEEEY!
JEEZ! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL, HAVE YOU? THIS IS WHY EVERYONE GETS THE WRONG IDEA, YOU KNOW?
YOU'RE GETTING KEI-CHAN ALL DROOPY!
HM?
.. I GOT HIM ALL DROOPY?
YOU DID! KIYO-CHAN, YOU NEED TO THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK!
KEI-CHAN WILL END UP HATING YOU, YOU KNOW?
WHA..

UM, SERIZAWA...
I KNOW KIYO-CHAN'S WORDS COME OFF SORTA HARSH, BUT...
...IT'S JUST THAT HE'S BLUNT.
HM?
THERE'S NO MALICE.
THAT WOULD...
...SUCK, TOO...
IT WOULD BE HARD TO SHOP WITH YOU NEXT TO ME WATCHING AND OFFERING TO PAY.
I SUP-POSE...
YOU SAID IT WOULD SUCK TO HAVE ME AROUND WHILE YOU BUY GLASSES.
BECAUSE IT WOULD'VE BEEN BAD TO GET IT DIRTY WITH MY NOSEBLEED...
AND HE REFUSED MY HAND-KERCHIEF.
I COULD-N'T SEE UNLESS I NARROWED MY EYES...
BUT HE WAS GLARING AT ME...

...THAT YOU HATED ME...
I WAS SO SURE...
I TOLD YOU HE WAS FINE.
SEE!
HUH...
WHY WOULD I HATE YOU?
I YEARN TO BE LIKE SAEKI-KUN, CAPABLE OF BOTH STUDYING AND SPORTS, AND POPULAR, LIKE A PRINCE FROM A GIRLS' COMIC.
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG, KOTOMIYA.
And that's weird
O... OH.
NO, IT'S TRUE. I LIKED YOU.
A little awkward silence passes
Blunt
THEN... LET'S...
...START OVER AS FRIENDS.

...WAS SO UNEXPECTEDLY...
KOTOMIYA...
...SERIZAWA LOOKED HAPPIEST.
HOW ARE YOUR GLASSES WORKING OUT, KOTOMIYA?
SEEING US LIKE THAT...
...I FELT RELIEVED FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
...CUTE WHEN HE SMILED LIKE THAT...

I SUPPOSE!
THIS IS UNUSUAL, YOU HAVING FRIENDS FROM ANOTHER CLASS.
IT'S LIKE I GOT MY FIRST GUY FRIEND.
Paid for half
NO, I SHOULD HAVE PAID THE FULL AMOUNT ANYWAY.
PRETTY GOOD. SORRY, YOU HAD TO PAY FOR THEM AFTER ALL.
Yuuma was his wife in his past life, so he doesn't count
UH.
SO YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS, SAEKI-KUN?
OH! POOR THING!
UH.
WHAT'S UP?
Im Arao
Im Kai
Im Oono
Im Mizutani
Hirom
LOSER K TEAM, ASSEMBLE!
I'M SO HAPPY YOU TWO COULD GET ALONG.
YOU ARE POPULAR
AAAHH! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!
MAKE HIM CRY, MAKE HIM CRY!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME, YOU LOSER!

MII-CHAN, YOU ALWAYS HAD MY BACK WHEN I GAVE THOSE AROUND ME THE WRONG IDEA, DION'T YOU.
ALL THANKS TO YOU, MII-CHAN.
NAH, IT WAS NOTHING!
Aha ha
YOU WERE LIKE MY INTER-PRETER, MII-CHAN.
THAT TAKES ME BACK!
You were even about the same height as me!
AND YOU'VE GROWN UP SO MUCH!
I DION'T THINK I'D SEE YOU AGAIN, KIYO-CHAN.
...I...
...MISSED YOU THE WHOLE TIME.
THE WHOLE TIME.

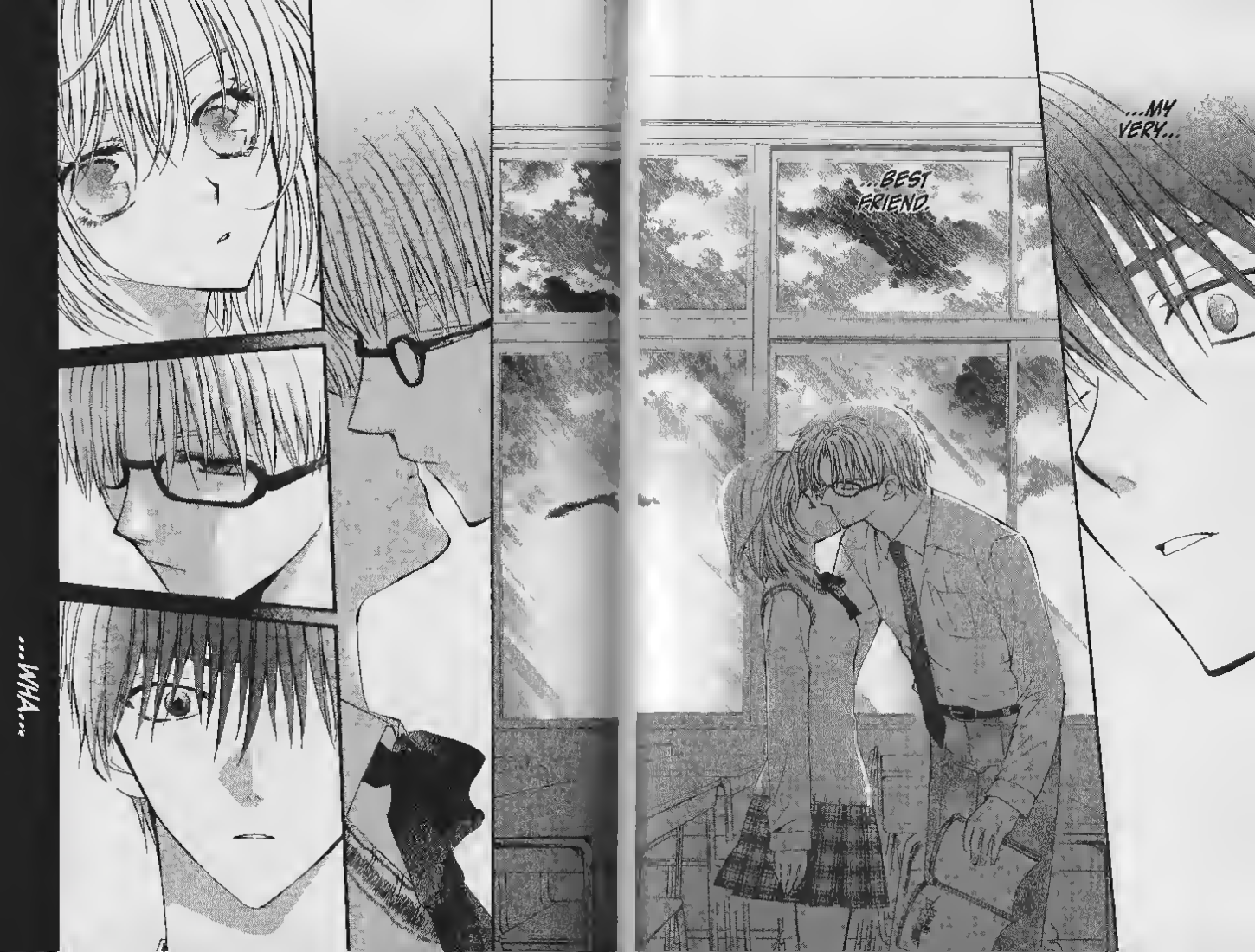
YEAH.
ME TOO.
OH, THAT'S FOR THE DRAMA CLUB...
...WHAT'S THAT?
DRAMA? NOT THE ART CLUB?
YEAH, IT'S FUN.
I DO THINGS LIKE DESIGN COSTUMES AND WRITE SCRIPTS.
I EVEN DRAW ILLUSTRATIONS AND STUFF FOR POSTERS.
HMMM. SO YOU WROTE THIS SCRIPT, MII-CHAN?
YUP.
THAT DOES SOUND FUN.
HEY, LET'S ACT IT OUT.
HUH?

KE... KEI-CHAN'S NOT AROUND, IS HE?
キョロ キョロ
NO GOOD?
.....
IN THE SCRIPT... LET'S SEE. HOW ABOUT SERENA'S LINES?
WHAAT?!
...FINE.
JUST A LITTLE.
'KAY?
SHE WAS CHATTING WITH KOTOMIYA WHEN I LEFT THE CLASSROOM, SO SHE MIGHT BE HERE
AT ANY RATE
THAT DAILY LOG TOOK A LOT OF TIME TO DO.
WONDER IF SERI-ZAWA'S STILL AROUND.
Class Helper

...SERIZAWA IS IMPRESSIVE.
I MEAN, SHE DECIPHERS ...
...KOTOMIYA'S HARD-TO-UNDERSTAND WORDS PREFECTLY.
Though the meaning is easy to understand
THAT'S HOW SERIZAWA IS.
EVEN I...
...TIME...
...AND TIME AGAIN...
...HAVE BEEN HELPED OUT BY THAT SIDE OF SERIZAWA.
SINCE THEY'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS...
...I GUESS THAT MEANS SERIZAWA KNOWS KOTOMIYA REALLY WELL.
I'M SURE THEY...
...EVEN HAVE SHARED MEMORIES I DON'T KNOW ABOUT.

"LORD SIRIX, TO FIGHT A LION IS MADNESS. PLEASE RUN AWAY..."
...HARD TO SWALLOW, BUT...
FOR SOME REASON, THAT'S A LITTLE...
AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO PUT US UP TO THIS, KIYO-CHAN?
WHA?
"SERENA, I WILL NOT RUN."
"FREE" ..?
WELL... I WAS FREE, SO I FIGURED I'D TRY OUT SIRIX.
"...IT'S A PROMISE, SERENA."
I CAN ASK THEM...
...ABOUT THE THINGS I DON'T KNOW.

SERIZAWA ALWAYS LAUGHS AND TELLS ME.
"IF I WIN THIS COMPE-TITION"...
..."YOU'LL ACCEPT MY PROPOSAL."
"...YES, LORD SIRIX."
"I'LL GLADLY ACCEPT"...
BECAUSE TO ME...
"IF YOU'LL HAVE..."
...SERIZAWA IS...
OH... SHE'S STILL HERE.
SERI...


...MY VERY...
...BEST FRIEND.
...WHA...

----------?
MY BRAIN'S...
...DATA PROCESSING SPEED CAN'T KEEP UP.
THOSE CARDS...
XIII
DEATH
XVI
THE TOWER
XVIII
THE MOON
...WHISPERED TO ME.
"YOU WILL LOSE SOMETHING IMPORTANT IN THE NEAR FUTURE."

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I HAD
NOTHING.
NOT FAMILY.
NOT SOMEONE TO LOVE.
NOT A REASON WHY I WAS BORN.
THAT'S WHY...
THERE IS NOT EVEN A GOD FOR ME TO SWEAR BY.
I WAS PLACED IN THIS WORLD...
...TO ROT.

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LOLEUS!
76 A.D
THE ITALIAN CITY OF POMPEII
I'M HERE ON AN ERRAND FROM LORD DAIOS.
A GIFT FOR YOU.
OH MY...
IT REALLY HAS WHAT ARE YOU DOING TODAY?
SERE-HA. IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
OH, LOLEUS, YOU'RE WOUNDED.
WOUNDED? I'M NOT WOUNDED.
That horny noble...
Oh so many times
INDEED?
A mes senger for Lord Daios
Who's he?
BUT I'VE TURNED HIM DOWN NUMEROUS TIMES...
Patients with sights set on Serena peeping out from inside the house (Serena is the surgeons daughter)

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BECAUSE SLAVES AREN'T PEOPLE.
SERENA, YOU'VE ALWAYS TREATED ONE SUCH AS ME SO KINDLY.
BUT BE CAREFUL. I MEAN, THAT ONE SINGLE WORD MIGHT BRING DISASTER
I CAN'T ALLOW SOME-THING LIKE THI...
IS THAT WHAT LORD DAIOS SAYS?
WHETHER A SLAVE OR A NOBLE, YOU WILL BE WOUNDED IF YOU ARE FLOGGED.
THE SAME PAIN WILL BE THERE, BUT...

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I SPEAK OF WHAT'S RIGHT, SO I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.
.....
I CAN'T STAND THOSE WITH NO HEART.
ES-PECIALLY WITH LORD DAIOS SO CRAZY FOR YOU.
YOU'RE SO COOL, SERENA.
カレン
STEP AWAY FROM SERENA.
M-MADAM SMYRNA ..
BOY.

I often receive letters asking me to draw Pompeii-only stories, and finally I've made it happen. It's just that "NG Life" is about Kendai Saeki's No Good life (also his very existence) so the setting has to be in his present life. Me personally though, I'm totally itching to do more past life stuff (laughs)

If you guys wouldn't mind, please send me your thoughts on this particular episode. It would make me so happy! It really is only with all your support that I continue to draw manga.

I had so much fun drawing Pompeii, but while it was in production, it was just a series of trials and errors as I strove to find ways to better express my vision of it. Ahh, I really want to draw more of Pompeii!

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... SHE'S GONNA KILL ME!
WHETHER I SAY I AM OR NOT...
THERE IS NO MAN WHO WOULDN'T PINO HIMSELF DAZZLED BY SERENA'S CUTENESS.
HMMM.
NO WAY! SERENA AND I ARE FRIENDS.
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I HAD
NOTHING.
NOT FAMILY.
NOT SOMEONE TO LOVE.
NOT A REASON WHY I WAS BORN.
THAT'S WHY...
THERE IS NOT EVEN A GOD FOR ME TO SWEAR BY.
I WAS PLACED IN THIS WORLD...
...TO ROT.

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LOLEUS!
76 A.D
THE ITALIAN CITY OF POMPEII
I'M HERE ON AN ERRAND FROM LORD DAIOS.
A GIFT FOR YOU.
OH MY...
IT REALLY HAS WHAT ARE YOU DOING TODAY?
SERE-HA. IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
OH, LOLEUS, YOU'RE WOUNDED.
WOUNDED? I'M NOT WOUNDED.
That horny noble...
Oh so many times
INDEED?
A mes senger for Lord Daios
Who's he?
BUT I'VE TURNED HIM DOWN NUMEROUS TIMES...
Patients with sights set on Serena peeping out from inside the house (Serena is the surgeons daughter)

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BECAUSE SLAVES AREN'T PEOPLE.
SERENA, YOU'VE ALWAYS TREATED ONE SUCH AS ME SO KINDLY.
BUT BE CAREFUL. I MEAN, THAT ONE SINGLE WORD MIGHT BRING DISASTER
I CAN'T ALLOW SOME-THING LIKE THI...
IS THAT WHAT LORD DAIOS SAYS?
WHETHER A SLAVE OR A NOBLE, YOU WILL BE WOUNDED IF YOU ARE FLOGGED.
THE SAME PAIN WILL BE THERE, BUT...

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I SPEAK OF WHAT'S RIGHT, SO I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.
.....
I CAN'T STAND THOSE WITH NO HEART.
ES-PECIALLY WITH LORD DAIOS SO CRAZY FOR YOU.
YOU'RE SO COOL, SERENA.
カレン
STEP AWAY FROM SERENA.
M-MADAM SMYRNA ..
BOY.

I often receive letters asking me to draw Pompeii-only stories, and finally I've made it happen. It's just that "NG Life" is about Kendai Saeki's No Good life (also his very existence) so the setting has to be in his present life. Me personally though, I'm totally itching to do more past life stuff (laughs)

If you guys wouldn't mind, please send me your thoughts on this particular episode. It would make me so happy! It really is only with all your support that I continue to draw manga.

I had so much fun drawing Pompeii, but while it was in production, it was just a series of trials and errors as I strove to find ways to better express my vision of it. Ahh, I really want to draw more of Pompeii!

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... SHE'S GONNA KILL ME!
WHETHER I SAY I AM OR NOT...
THERE IS NO MAN WHO WOULDN'T PINO HIMSELF DAZZLED BY SERENA'S CUTENESS.
HMMM.
NO WAY! SERENA AND I ARE FRIENDS.
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..THAT YOU'RE ALIVE.
I WAS JUST WALKING BY AND SAW YOU LYING ON THE GROUND SO STILL SO... I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
AND...! I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE!
WHO'S STUPID?!
... STUPID ...
NO, IT'S OKAY ...
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU SO RECK-LESS?
TREASURE YOUR LIFE A LITTLE MORE!
DID YOU GET BEATEN BY YOUR MASTER AGAIN? I'M GONNA HAVE A WORD WITH HIM
NOT "WHAT THE"!
HE SEEMS HEAL-THY...
WHAT THE ...
...OVER A RAGGEDY PIECE OF CLOTH LIKE ME.
FURIOUS BEYOND BELIEF...
HE REALLY IS A STRANGE GUY.
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ALIVE!

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I DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD UNLESS YOU WERE ORDERED TO
REALLY? I'M SO HAPPY!
I CAME TO VISIT TODAY.
SERENA!
HE KEEPS DISSOLVING MY ROTTED SOUL.
YOUR EYES ARE SO LIVELY.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT.
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SO THIS IS WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON, NUH?
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HOW UNCOUTH
YOU COVER UP FOR HIM, SERENA?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! LOLEUS IS...!
...IT'S THAT YOU WERE PRETENDING TO DELIVER MY GIFTS AND HAVING AN ILLICIT LOVE AFFAIR WITH YOUR MASTER'S WOMAN, YOU BASTARD
I'D WONDERED WHY SERENA WOULD NOT GIVE ME A FAVORABLE RESPONSE, BUT...
LORD OAIOS.
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, LOLEUS?
...TO KEEP SILENT AND BEAR IT LIKE ALWAYS.
LORD OAIOS
I DELIVERED THE GIFTS AS ASKED.
IT WOULD BE EASY...
...I AM HUMAN.
...BECAUSE...
BUT I WILL NOT HAND SERENA OVER TO YOU.
BUT...
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ALIVE!

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BE HAPPY, SEREHA.
PLEASE WAIT, LOLEUS DIDN'T DO AN...
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE WIFE OF THE NEXT AEDILE.
SERENA!!
COME!
...YOU BASTARD ...
THIS CREATURE IS A SERIOUS CRIMINAL!!
TAKE HIM IN!
I'LL GIVE YOU...ONLY ONE CHANCE TO LIVE, LOLEUS.
A LOWLY SLAVE, DECEIVING YOUR MASTER AND TRICKING SERENA!!
BUT THEN, THE ODDS YOU'LL SURVIVE ARE ZERO, AREN'T THEY?

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KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
THE SITE OF OUR EXECUTION.
THE SMELL OF BLOOD...
WHAT IS THIS PLACE...
YOU'RE A CRIMINAL, AREN'T YOU? DON'T YOU KNOW ANY-THING?
HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU'RE SHAKING
WHERE IS THIS?
WHEN GUYS LIKE US COME HERE, WE DON'T GO HOME AGAIN
COME OUT, YOU PRISON-ERS.
THE AMPHI-THEATRE.

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...IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT...
THEIR HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER...
THESE PEOPLE DEMAND BLOOD LIKE THEY'RE POSSESSED.
GyaaaHHHH!!
...MAKES ME WANT TO VOMIT.
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THESE FIGHTS TO THE DEATH! MY HEART SINGS!!
YEAAH! KILL HIM, PIETAS! I'M BETTING ON YOU!
ゴス

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GYAAAAAAH!!
IT JUST GOT INTERESTING.
THAT SLAVE AIN'T DOING TOO BAD.
WHAT...
...IS SO ENTERTAINING ABOUT THIS...?!
THESE ARE HUMAN BEINGS DYING HERE, SAME AS THEM...!!
huff huff
IF I LOSE, THAT MAN GETS SERENA
SO HELL IF I'M GONNA DIE!!

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SIRIX!!
SIRIX!!
IT'S... YOU...
SIRIX!!
SIRIX!!
SIRIX LUCRETIUS FRONTO!
AND NOW FOR TODAY'S MAIN EVENT!
THE STRONGEST GLADIATOR PRODUCED BY POMPEII, WORSHIPPED AS MARS, THE GOD OF WAR, INCARNATE!
OHH, IT'S HIM! HE'S HERE!
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, NERO!

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WAS THAT... A DREAM?
Huff
huff
THEN WHAT IS THIS CLOTH ON MY HAND...?
...AN ILLU-SION?!
WERE BOTH THOSE WORDS AND THOSE TEARS...
A MAN WITH EYES LIKE THAT IS ACTUALLY A KILLER...
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ABOUT PROOF OF HIS WISH FOR MY RECOVERY?!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT... ABOUT HOW IT MADE HIM GLAD THAT I WAS ALIVE?!

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SO I STOLE HER.
RAOUL? THIS IS RARE. WHAT BRINGS YOU OUT HERE?
DAIOS WAS TRYING TO FORCIBLY KIDNAP A BEAUTIFUL JEWEL
Woo! Hurrah!
UNCLE.
THE CURRENT AEDILE. ARENA ORGANIZER.
My nephew is scary
THAT MAN. WON'T EVEN RETURN TO NOBILITY, MUCH LESS BECOME THE NEXT AEDILE.
—HAS FALLEN INTO DARKNESS, SHALL WE SAY
A LOW-LIFE WHO TREATS WOMEN SO ROUGHLY
AND WHAT OF DAIOS?
SHE WISHED TO COME HERE.
I WONDER ABOUT THAT.
EVENLY MATCHED?
BUT HE'S QUITE EVENLY MATCHED AGAINST A BEGINNER
THEY CALL THAT MAN CALLED SIRIX THE ARM OF POMPEII.
NO...!
PLEASE STOP THIS FIGHT!
LOLEUS IS INNOCENT!
IF I STOPPED IT, THEY WOULD STAGE A REBELLION
THIS IS THE PEOPLE'S GREATEST AMUSEMENT

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HE'S STRONG... I'LL BE KILLED AT THIS RATE.
Hurh...
BUT BECAUSE OF... SOMEONE...
...I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO GIVE UP...
THIS FIGHT IS REALLY GOING ON FOREVER.
BUT IF THIS WERE A WILD BEAST, SIRIX WOULD KILL HIM IN MINUTES.
YEAH.
I...
...REFUSE TO DIE!!

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YOU...
IF I COULD, I WANTED TO SAVE THE OTHER MAN TOO, BUT...
...I'M AT MY LIMIT ...
IN AN EVENLY MATCHED FIGHT, IF YOU GET THE PEOPLE ON YOUR SIDE...
IT MIGHT END WITH-OUT BOTH OF US DYING. THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING
WHA?
A BATTLE IN THE ARENA WON'T END UNTIL WE STRIKE EACH OTHER AT THE SAME TIME AND THEY CAN'T TELL WHICH ONE WILL DIE...
IF YOU KILL ME...
... YOU'LL BE SAVED.
THE PEOPLE WILL CATCH ON SOON.
NO... NO...
WHY...
WHY WOULD YOU GO SO FAR FOR ME...?
YOU'VE BEEN TREATED SO POORLY, AND CAST INTO A PLACE LIKE THIS...
HOW DEEP YOUR DESPAIR SHOULD BE...
...I HOPED THAT ONE DAY YOU'D WANT TO CLING TO LIFE...
THAT TIME ...
BUT YOU SAID YOU REFUSED TO DIE.

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YOU COVER UP FOR HIM, SERENA?
HOW UNCOUTH
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! LOLEUS IS...!
...IT'S THAT YOU WERE PRETENDING TO DELIVER MY GIFTS AND HAVING AN ILLICIT LOVE AFFAIR WITH YOUR MASTER'S WOMAN, YOU BASTARD
I'D WONDERED WHY SERENA WOULD NOT GIVE ME A FAVORABLE RESPONSE, BUT...
LORD OAIOS,
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, LOLEUS?
...TO KEEP SILENT AND BEAR IT LIKE ALWAYS.
LORD OAIOS
I DELIVERED THE GIFTS AS ASKED.
IT WOULD BE EASY...
...I AM HUMAN.
...BECAUSE...
BUT I WILL NOT HAND SERENA OVER TO YOU.
BUT...
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ALIVE!

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SIRI...
Awww
cry cry cry cry
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SHE'S A CELEBRATED NOBLEWOMAN EVEN IN POMPEII. SHE ARRANGED THINGS FOR YOU SO THAT IT COULD END WITHOUT YOU TWO DYING.
She was so cool
AGLAIA ...?
YES. BE GRATEFUL TO LADY AGLAIA FELIX FOR THAT.
SIRIX .. IS ALIVE ...?

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UNWAVERING KINDNESS?
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TOO SOFT-HEARTED.
...WARM PERSON ...
WHAT A...
NOTHING THAT THESE HANDS WOULD TOUCH.
I'D THOUGHT I WAS ..
...A TOOL THAT WOULD KEEP ROTTING AWAY, SAME AS ALWAYS, BUT...
WHY DID YOU DO THAT...
IF YOU DO A THING LIKE THAT...
...I...
...HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LIVE FOR YOU, I GUESS.

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...ABOUT THIS DAY.
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I WONDER IF HE'LL WAKE UP SOON.
I WANT TO TALK TO HIM TOO.
...FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I WAS BORN.
THAT DAY I SWORE TO MYSELF...
HMM, NOTHING ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LOLEWS.

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LORD SIRIX, LOLEUS!
SERENA?
LET'S GO! BREAKFAST TODAY IS BREAD AND SAUSAGE.
YAAAY! ♡ How extravagant!
THERE IS ONE OTHER TRUE OATH.
...I'LL PROTECT SIRIX AND SERENA.
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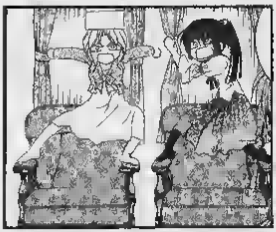

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KOTOMIYA LAUNCHES A FULL-ON ASSAULT! BUT JUST AS KEIDAI BEGINS TO RECONCILE HIS FEELINGS FOR SERIZAWA, SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENS...

NG LIFE

VOL. 8

BY MIZUHO KUSANAGI

COMING SOON

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BE HAPPY, SEREHA.
PLEASE WAIT, LOLEUS DIDN'T DO AN...
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE WIFE OF THE NEXT AEDILE.
SERENA!!
COME!
...YOU BASTARD ...
THIS CREATURE IS A SERIOUS CRIMINAL!!
TAKE HIM IN!
I'LL GIVE YOU...ONLY ONE CHANCE TO LIVE, LOLEUS.
A LOWLY SLAVE, DECEIVING YOUR MASTER AND TRICKING SERENA!!
BUT THEN, THE ODDS YOU'LL SURVIVE ARE ZERO, AREN'T THEY?

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KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
THE SITE OF OUR EXECUTION.
THE SMELL OF BLOOD...
WHAT IS THIS PLACE...
YOU'RE A CRIMINAL, AREN'T YOU? DON'T YOU KNOW ANY-THING?
HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU'RE SHAKING
WHERE IS THIS?
WHEN GUYS LIKE US COME HERE, WE DON'T GO HOME AGAIN
COME OUT, YOU PRISON-ERS.
THE AMPHI-THEATRE.

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...IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT...
THEIR HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER...
THESE PEOPLE DEMAND BLOOD LIKE THEY'RE POSSESSED.
GyaaaHHHH!!
...MAKES ME WANT TO VOMIT.
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THESE FIGHTS TO THE DEATH! MY HEART SINGS!!
YEAAH! KILL HIM, PIETAS! I'M BETTING ON YOU!
ゴス

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GYAAAAAAH!!
IT JUST GOT INTERESTING.
THAT SLAVE AIN'T DOING TOO BAD.
WHAT...
...IS SO ENTERTAINING ABOUT THIS...?!
THESE ARE HUMAN BEINGS DYING HERE, SAME AS THEM...!!
huff huff
IF I LOSE, THAT MAN GETS SERENA
SO HELL IF I'M GONNA DIE!!

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SIRIX!!
SIRIX!!
IT'S... YOU...
SIRIX!!
SIRIX!!
SIRIX LUCRETIUS FRONTO!
AND NOW FOR TODAY'S MAIN EVENT!
THE STRONGEST GLADIATOR PRODUCED BY POMPEII, WORSHIPPED AS MARS, THE GOD OF WAR, INCARNATE!
OHH, IT'S HIM! HE'S HERE!
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, NERO!

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WAS THAT... A DREAM?
Huff
huff
THEN WHAT IS THIS CLOTH ON MY HAND...?
...AN ILLU-SION?!
WERE BOTH THOSE WORDS AND THOSE TEARS...
A MAN WITH EYES LIKE THAT IS ACTUALLY A KILLER...
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ABOUT PROOF OF HIS WISH FOR MY RECOVERY?!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT... ABOUT HOW IT MADE HIM GLAD THAT I WAS ALIVE?!

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SO I STOLE HER.
RAOUL? THIS IS RARE. WHAT BRINGS YOU OUT HERE?
DAIOS WAS TRYING TO FORCIBLY KIDNAP A BEAUTIFUL JEWEL
Woo! Hurrah!
UNCLE.
THE CURRENT AEDILE. ARENA ORGANIZER.
My nephew is scary
THAT MAN. WON'T EVEN RETURN TO NOBILITY, MUCH LESS BECOME THE NEXT AEDILE.
—HAS FALLEN INTO DARKNESS, SHALL WE SAY
A LOW-LIFE WHO TREATS WOMEN SO ROUGHLY
AND WHAT OF DAIOS?
SHE WISHED TO COME HERE.
I WONDER ABOUT THAT.
EVENLY MATCHED?
BUT HE'S QUITE EVENLY MATCHED AGAINST A BEGINNER
THEY CALL THAT MAN CALLED SIRIX THE ARM OF POMPEII.
NO...!
PLEASE STOP THIS FIGHT!
LOLEUS IS INNOCENT!
IF I STOPPED IT, THEY WOULD STAGE A REBELLION
THIS IS THE PEOPLE'S GREATEST AMUSEMENT

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HE'S STRONG... I'LL BE KILLED AT THIS RATE.
Hurh...
BUT BECAUSE OF... SOMEONE...
...I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO GIVE UP...
THIS FIGHT IS REALLY GOING ON FOREVER.
BUT IF THIS WERE A WILD BEAST, SIRIX WOULD KILL HIM IN MINUTES.
YEAH.
I...
...REFUSE TO DIE!!

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YOU...
IF I COULD, I WANTED TO SAVE THE OTHER MAN TOO, BUT...
...I'M AT MY LIMIT ...
IN AN EVENLY MATCHED FIGHT, IF YOU GET THE PEOPLE ON YOUR SIDE...
IT MIGHT END WITH-OUT BOTH OF US DYING. THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING
WHA?
A BATTLE IN THE ARENA WON'T END UNTIL WE STRIKE EACH OTHER AT THE SAME TIME AND THEY CAN'T TELL WHICH ONE WILL DIE...
IF YOU KILL ME...
... YOU'LL BE SAVED.
THE PEOPLE WILL CATCH ON SOON.
NO... NO...
WHY...
WHY WOULD YOU GO SO FAR FOR ME...?
YOU'VE BEEN TREATED SO POORLY, AND CAST INTO A PLACE LIKE THIS...
HOW DEEP YOUR DESPAIR SHOULD BE...
...I HOPED THAT ONE DAY YOU'D WANT TO CLING TO LIFE...
THAT TIME ...
BUT YOU SAID YOU REFUSED TO DIE.

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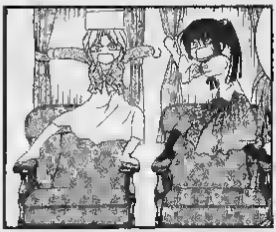

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